



CULCAIRN OASIS

CULCAIRN AND DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

October 2021

ABOUT THE BUSH

Wildlife on the move this spring

Spring is the time many of our native animals are on the move. Most of our winter migrant birds have returned now – noisy friarbirds, sacred kingfishers, fantail cuckoos, olive-backed orioles and white-throated gerygones can all be heard calling from bushland. These birds head north for winter and in exchange we get birds like flame robins, gang gang cockatoos and pied currawongs who head down from the hills to avoid the snow.



Faintail cuckoo

You may have come across birds building nests, checking out hollows in big old box trees, or feeding chicks – there are fledgling red wattlebirds and noisy friarbirds in my neighbourhood practicing their calls and begging from parents. Maybe you've been swooped by super protective magpie parents or by masked plovers who foolishly build their nests on the ground in lawns.

Echidnas are also on the move, males following the scent trails of females or females travelling long distances to find food for young puggles. As they move around they will often cross roads or head through fences between paddocks. If you do see them on the road, don't try to move them, but wait while they cross so they don't get hit by the next vehicle.



In the coming months turtles will also be on the move. Our local species is the eastern snake-necked turtle which feeds on large numbers of invertebrates as well as tadpoles and fish. Creeks and farm dams support populations of turtles, and in spring they move through the landscape looking for mates or finding suitable breeding spots away from foxes. Foxes are their number one threat – destroying the majority of nests as well as killing adults. The second biggest killer of turtles is us – they get killed on roads far too often, so next time you are travelling, please slow down and let our native wildlife cross safely.



Eastern snake-necked turtle

Colleen O'Malley

CULCAIRN—KILTEARN HOUSE

In early September, we tried our hands at drumming for exercises. We didn't have much rhythm but we definitely had a wonderful time. Drumming will be back again soon.



CULCAIRN GARDEN CLUB



The Garden Club members' visited St. Joseph's school students to teach them about gardening.



GREATER HUME CHILDREN SERVICES

Council's Children Centres and Family Day Care are OPEN

Greater Hume Children Services has continued to provide much needed child care services through its centre based services at Holbrook, Henty, Culcairn and Walla Walla in addition to the more than 60 Family Day Care educators based across the region from Badow to Benalla.

It's been a challenging year with the impact of COVID-19 affecting all services with the many changes, cross border issues and requirements required in order to remain open, maintain services, in addition to managing health and safety risks to remain compliant.

The Culcairn Early Learning Centre successfully transitioned to Greater Hume Children Services in July and continues to provide a full range of child care.

A new van was purchased to provide additional mobile playgroup and other services across all of our delivery areas.

With skills shortages in the early childhood education sector, staff recruitment was a key action; pleasingly, Council has appointed new Centre Directors to all centre based services.



Greater Hume Children Services Manager, Fiona Pattinson said "Our focus continues to be on the children and families and being able to provide services. Our service staff and educators have been amazing and continue to step up and meet all of the challenges that have been thrown at us and I would like to acknowledge and thank all of them for the valuable work they do on a daily basis."

Demand for services remains strong with Family Day Care having a waiting list for the first time in a long time and the Holbrook centre operating close to capacity.

We still have vacancies available for families who need the service for work and who want to maintain routines and consistency for their children.

Additionally, there are work opportunities for new educators to work with the service particularly in the Family Day Care sector.

Contact the service on 1800 984 999 for more information.



CULCAIRN OASIS POLICY STATEMENT

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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 2nd November 2021

Folding Date– Fri 5th November 2021 at 1pm

Delivery Date - Wed 10th November 2021

We prefer articles and advertising to be emailed to: 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 or phone 0260298291

Please note this publication is available online at www.culcairn.nsw.au 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 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 or phone David Gilmore on 6029 8291.

LOCAL TRANSPORT MADE EASY

Available to All Residents for medical appointments, local shopping, social purposes and other. For more information or bookings contact David Gilmore 02 6029 8291 or Jan Scheuner 0488 212 905

P.S. If anyone else would like to volunteer their services please contact David or Jan.

NSW Electoral Commission

Save the date

2021 NSW Local Government elections

Saturday 4 December

Voting is compulsory

elections.nsw.gov.au/lge21
1300 135 736

2021 NSW Local Government elections

Greater Hume Council will conduct **councillor elections** to elect nine councillors, to serve for a three year term, on Saturday, 4 December 2021.

In September 2020 Council resolved that a **constitutional referendum** be held regarding wards in conjunction with the Local Government Election.

Scan for more information on the elections, Becoming a Councillor and the referendum:

Greater Hume Council

CULCAIRN HEALTH MATTERS



A familiar face at the Culcairn MPS is our registered nurse, Nerida Hodges. She was born and bred here, and has called Culcairn home for all of her life. Nerida started working at the hospital casually in 1984, moved to Albury Base from 1995 to 2000, when she then

transferred back to Culcairn in a permanent role. After a couple of years in Henty, we were pleased to welcome her back in 2019 to stay! Nerida is valued for her excellent care and competency, her experience and ability to relate to all, and that cheeky sense of humour she brings to her role. She has seen many changes over her time in her profession, where Telehealth and aged care have become more of a focus in this ever challenging nursing role.

When not working, Nerida enjoys regular walking to keep fit, her antique and collectables adventures, and spending time with her much-loved family.

MPS Update:

Visiting - One person per day can visit our aged care residents in their rooms only. There is a strict risk assessment to be completed before entry is granted. The QR code will still need to be completed. Many thanks to our hardworking and dedicated MPS staff, and our SARKON practitioners for assisting to boost our Covid-19 vaccination numbers.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

A big thank you to everyone who is helping our committee by putting their recycling in the bins at Eric Thomas Park. One bin is for glass bottles and one is for cans & plastic bottles.

It is greatly appreciated and we hope to be able to have some projects to show how the money is being spent sometime soon.



IN YOUR GARDEN

As Spring continues with warmer weather, lots of showers & longer days growth in our gardens is full speed ahead. I have enjoyed lots of amazing daffodils & now it's time for Iris to show their colours. Starting in mid September with a plain (but beautiful) mid Blue, to all the other varieties of size & colour, including a delicate mauve dwarf specimen.

Daffodils (& other flowering bulbs) are finished & dying down. These need fertilising & watering for the next six weeks. This feeds the bulbs & prepares them to flower next year.

Wysteria are flowering now with many colours. My purple one is a mass of bloom, but the pink one (in the same area of the garden & same age) has ONE flower!! Time to spread some ash around the base of the vine & fertilize.

Roses are also showing their colours, watch out for aphids & black spot. Small birds & lady beetles should deal with the aphids & a spray of one part milk (full cream) in ten parts of water should help get rid of the black spot. "Jubilee" is a pale yellow/pink rose out now that is quite striking. Continue to dead head throughout the season for more blooms. Flowering now, "Altissimo" is a brilliant red, single rose, that grows up to two metres in height. Hippeastrums & Lillies are growing now. Protect from snails & slugs as they will damage the leaves & later, the flowers.

POTS—Grow a pot of colour for a sunny spot in the garden or on the verandah. Use a large terracotta pot or an urn. Add good quality potting mix. Buy five single pots of variegated pansies, ie pink & white, yellow & blue etc. Add two pots of Lamb's Ears (or get some from a friend!) Mix the plants for a pleasing result.

SALVIAS—Larger flowered cultivars "Costa Rica Blue" & "Black & Blue" fill up an empty spot at the back of your garden. They are easy to grow & small birds (Silvereyes) love the nectar in the large blue flowers. Cut these back after the first flush of flowers to ensure an Autumn flowering.

VEGETABLES—Time now for tomatoes to go in, if you think the frosts have finished (or are prepared to cover the plants every night!). The heirloom varieties are very rewarding ie "Black Russian", "Green Zebra" & many others are available as seeds & plants.

I buy punnets of small plants, put them into single pots & plant out when the soil is warmer & frost free. It's also time for cucumbers, pumpkins, squash, beans (dwarf & climbing), melons, corn & zucchinis & more peas. Try growing cucumbers & pumpkins up a trellis to save space. It's also time to enjoy peas & broad beans. I pick these quite small & use in stir fries with good results.

MULCH—Do your weeding, feeding & mulching now so the impact of a hot summer will be lessened. A wide variety of mulch is available, from lucerne hay to rice hulls & sugar cane mulch. Garden compost & straw will work too. Enjoy your time in the Garden, Margaret Pampa

LET'S DO THIS.

Greater Hume residents get vaccinated!
Book an appointment at:

Culcairn	Sarkon Medical Culcairn	Tel: (02) 6080 8442
Henty	Henty Medical Centre	Tel: (02) 6929 3760
Holbrook	Vecare Health	Tel: (02) 6036 2952
Jindera	Jindera Medical Clinic	Tel: (02) 6026 3203
Jindera	Jindera Pharmacy	Tel: (02) 6026 3271
Walla Walla	Vecare Health	Tel: (02) 6036 2952

Come on Greater Hume residents, Let's Do This!

HOSPITAL NEWS



At the hospital we have had a couple of incidents where community members have hit the emergency button to gain access. Here is a photo of the Intercom to show which button is to be pressed. When the emergency button is pressed all the staff run to that area thinking its an emergency. If we could please ask you to only press the button photographed, staff will still answer.

How to become a resident. To become a permanent resident or have a respite stay, you need to call the hospital reception on (02) 60446100 to see if we have any beds. If not, your name will be added to the waiting list. Once we are open again for normal visiting we can offer tours to potential residents and their family. Once you have made the decision that you would like to move into our facility, our wonderful admin ladies will give you a pack with all the relevant forms to be completed. We can then agree on a move in date and time.

Unfortunately we are unable to have the hairdresser at the moment. That hasn't stopped us here in the Residential Aged Care. Gaye has been



cutting hair and Toni has been dying hair. Barbara has gone from a grey streak to a lovely shade of brown.

We are very grateful to the people in our community in particular Sharon Wonson for organising a material drive for us to make clothes protectors for our residents. Sharon put out a call to her sewing friends and they have been extremely generous. The protectors are being made for us by the Turban Angels run by Josie Comish in Beechworth.



Meals on Wheels
Holbrook-Walla Walla

POSITION VACANT

Emergency Readiness Support Worker

We are seeking an enthusiastic worker to assist older people to participate in an exciting new project. Using the ACT! Emergency Toolkit, the project aims to support and empower older people in the Greater Hume Council area to discuss and plan for emergency events, such as bushfire.

This position requires a self-starter, who has excellent communication skills, and is well organized. The majority of the project work will be conducted within the participant's home environment, therefore you must have the ability to work independently, as also as part of our team. As an inherent part of this role will be face to face with vulnerable peoples, you must be fully vaccinated against Influenza and Covid-19.

You must have your own vehicle and a current driver's license, with a good driving record. You will be paid vehicle reimbursement when using your own vehicle for work purposes.

The successful applicant will be required to undergo a National Criminal Record Check and provide evidence of current Influenza and Covid-19 vaccination.

The initial contract position is for a period of 12 weeks and will be for 15-20 hours per week. Salary and conditions are in accordance with the Social, Community, Home Care & Disability Services Industry Award 2010 (SCHADS Modern Award) in accordance with experience and qualifications.

Applicants must obtain an Information package and ensure they address the Essential and Desirable criteria set out in the Position Description. The package is available to interested applicants by calling our office 02 60363677 or via email to: office@holbrookmealsonwheels.com.au



COVID – 19 VACCINATION DAY

On Monday September 27, a very successful vaccination clinic was held in the Culcairn Memorial Town Hall. It was requested by the Culcairn LHAC, and administered by our local SARKON medical group.

Over the seven hours, 106 Pfizer vaccinations were given to all those who booked in, or walked in, on the day for their first or second vaccination. Recipients came from many towns in our local government area, even one from Narrandera, and we had a visit from a curious turtle!

Among those who took advantage of the opportunity to receive the vaccination locally were a number of school students, tradies, elderly and some family groups.

Thanks are extended to those who volunteered their time to set up and then clean up, those who assisted with the running of the clinic, the donated bottles of water, the SARKON staff and practitioners and all who contributed to the success of this venture. Culcairn LHAC





CULCAIRN LIBRARY

Get Online Week for Seniors
Free event at the Culcairn Library on Monday 18th October 10 am to 12pm
. You will learn how use Zoom

& QR coding, also assistance with technology.
Includes lunch and a QR code lucky dip where the winner wins a meat tray. Please phone 02 6036 0179 as bookings are essential.

FREE Tax Help – 2021 @the Culcairn Library

Friday, 22nd 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.

CULCAIRN BOWLING & RECREATION CLUB

The Club is happy to advise bowlers and social members that the Club is open Wednesday through to Sunday from 12 midday with Covid restrictions for regional areas in place to meet compliance with NSW regulations.

The popular Friday Night raffle draw (Muttley's Meat Raffles) continue with 21 draws which include \$20 Meat and Club bar vouchers as well as fresh Fruit and Veg boxes. Ticket sales open from 7pm, with the new Boomer Raffle happening on the last Friday of the month with 12 draws and a wide selection of top prizes for the lucky winners to choose from.

The Clubs ever popular Kenny's Chinese Restaurant is open for dine in or take-away Wednesday to Sunday from 6pm to 7.30pm and open Sundays for lunch 12pm to 1.30pm.

Sundays provide an opportunity for both experienced and 'wannabe' bowlers to enjoy a relaxing few ends of social bowls beginning every Sunday at 1.30pm (weather permitting),. So come on down and spend a relaxing Sunday afternoon at the Club.

From the Management Team, Stay Safe and Covid free and we look forward to seeing you soon.



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Greater Hume Council are reviewing the
Community Strategic Plan (CSP).

The CSP is driven by you, the community
for the community.

We want to know what you **love about life
in Greater Hume**, your **BIG idea**, what our
preferred future looks like and how we
can all **work towards achieving** that.

Scan Me - What's your BIG idea and Have
your Say!



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An advertising promotion

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