

OCTOBER 2025

MONTHLY UPDATE



MESSAGE FROM THE CEO



In opening my first monthly update as the new CEO, I would like to acknowledge the work and achievements of Mr Neil 'Poly' Polglase, who has acted as Interim CEO over the last twelve months. Neil is passionate about rural Queensland and he has left an indelible mark on the Paroo Shire.

As this is my first newsletter it would be also remiss of me to not thank the Mayor, Councillors, staff, and community members who have made me so welcome. I have to say the warmth of

welcome has matched the heat I have been used to in Far North Queensland and compensated for the cooler starts to the days in Cunnamulla.

I timed my arrival in Cunnamulla just in time for the Roundup, which was an enormous success. Many congratulations to the organising committee, sponsors, volunteers, riders, and the community who attended and made the event so special.

Over the last few weeks I have held a number of meetings with Shepherd, who project manage our major infrastructure program. I am pleased to report that over 80% of road repairs associated with the January 2024 flood event have now been completed, with the remaining 20% to be finalised very shortly. Focus is now well and truly on the March 2025 flood event repairs and the volume of work is significant.

In finishing, how good was it to have Jonathon Thurston in town this month in his role as an ambassador for Get Ready Queensland together with our local emergency services. All the children seemed to have a great time.

Then in more exciting news for the Paroo Shire and neighbouring communities, Brent Mickelberg, Minister for Transport and Main Roads and Sean Dillon, Assistant Minister for Primary Industry Development, Water and Western Queensland travelled to Eulo to announce funding to deliver a replacement bridge over the Paroo River. Planning is well underway and we hope to see the new bridge in place in time for the 100th anniversary of the current bridge in 2028.

We'd like to congratulate the September winner of the 2025 Paroo Shire Photography Competition!

October entries are now open!

www.cunnamullatourism.com.au/whats-on/photo-competition



"Follow the Leader" by Judy Lucas

COMMUNITY
ENABLES US TO
WELCOME AND
HELP PEOPLE IN A
WAY WE COULDN'T
AS INDIVIDUALS

UPCOMING COUNCIL MEETINGS

- 18th November
- 11th December

JOB VACANCIES

- Building & Facilities Officer
- Plumber and Mechanic apprenticeship roles
- Casual Positions within the Infrastructure Team

For more info visit
www.paroo.qld.gov.au/employment or email
hr@paroo.qld.gov.au

WWW.PAROO.QLD.GOV.AU

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AUSTRALIA DAY NOMINATIONS

Help celebrate the local legends who make our community great. Nominations are open now and close on the 1st December. **Find out more at www.paroo.qld.gov.au/australiaday**

CUNNAMULLA HOT SPRINGS SUMMER TRADING + LOCALS PASS

As the weather warms up, the Cunnamulla Hot Springs will move to summer trading hours from Monday 27th October.

Thursday - Monday: 6-10am & 4-7pm
Tuesday & Wednesday: closed
Monday 22nd December - Sunday 4th January: closed for Christmas/New Years shut-down

And if you're up for some serious relaxation this summer, four-week locals passes are available to purchase for only \$150pp. Buy in-person at the Cunnamulla Hot Springs and for Paroo Shire residents only.

WARREGO RIVER TOURISM OPPORTUNITY OPEN FOR TENDER

Paroo Shire Council is seeking expressions of interest from passionate and motivated operators to help deliver a new tourism experience on the Warrego River.

Council has secured the Vessell Paroo, a commercial boat that can accommodate 12 passengers and one crew member, to showcase the region's unique landscapes, wildlife, and rich cultural heritage.

Council is open to partnering with private enterprise and may offer marketing support, booking systems, and operator training to help bring this exciting venture to life.

Expressions of interest close at midday, Friday 7th November 2025. Forms are available from the Council office or by emailing council@paroo.qld.gov.au. For more information, contact 07 4655 8400.

JT COMES TO THE PAROO

JT visited Cunnamulla last week as a Get Ready Queensland Ambassador.

Children from around the shire joined JT and Emergency Services to learn all about getting ready for the season. There was a demonstration of what to do if there was a fire in your kitchen, heaps of give-aways and JT's pen almost ran out doing all the signing...

As JT took a lap over town in a chopper the children formed the letters GRQ and waved up to him.

John Mitchell presented JT with a special kangaroo pelt painted by his grandson Kurt.

Thank you to all our Emergency Services for taking the time out and Get Ready Queensland. And thank you JT, you have made some children feel very, very special.



18+ Social Netball

Every Tuesday from 5.30pm at the PCYC

Cunnamulla & District Show Society Meeting

Saturday 25th October at 10am at the Cunnamulla Showgrounds

Golf Club "Pink Day"

Saturday 25th October from 9.30am at the Cunnamulla Golf Club

Eulo Pink Morning Tea

Sunday 26th October from 9.30am at the Eulo Hall

Funny Mummies Cabaret Spectacular

Tuesday 28th October at 6.30pm at the Paroo Shire Hall

Drones in Livestock Management Workshop

Tuesday 28th October from 8.30am - 4pm at the Wyandra Hall (RSVP essential)

Melbourne Cup Lunch

Tuesday 4th November from 11am at the YOMSCI Hall

Remembrance Day

Tuesday 11th November

Cinderella Spinderella

Monday 17th November at the Paroo Shire Hall

JOHN KERR PARK & POOL: WE WANT YOUR IDEAS!

Over the past few months, Paroo Shire Council have been engaging with Fulton Trotter Architects and their team to re-imagine our beloved John Kerr Park and Cunnamulla Pool precinct.

Starting with extensive community consultation, we have recognised our residents' feedback to ensure the plan is a community informed project.

We now invite the community to provide feedback on the Draft Master Plan, it's available to view at the Council office or at www.paroo.qld.gov.au/news

Please email your feedback to council@paroo.qld.gov.au with the subject "Master Plan Feedback".

NEW BRIDGE FOR EULO ON THE WAY!



Exciting news for our region, a brand-new bridge over the Paroo River at Eulo is officially on the way!

Queensland Transport Minister Brent Mickelberg and Assistant Minister Sean Dillon visited the Shire to announce the project, which forms part of \$155 million in betterment works funded by the Albanese and Crisafulli Governments.

The new bridge will replace the existing 1928 structure and is expected to be completed by 2028

at a cost of \$51 million. It will be wider and built to carry two road trains, improving safety and reliability for residents, freight, and essential services.

The project marks a major win for Eulo and neighbouring communities, strengthening local connectivity and ensuring the region remains accessible year-round.

CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEARS COUNCIL CLOSURE

COUNCIL OFFICE AND LIBRARIES

From 4.30pm
Friday 19th December -
Friday 2nd January

OUTDOOR EMPLOYEES

Monday 22nd December -
Friday 9th January

BECOME AN AUXILIARY FIREFIGHTER IN CUNNAMULLA!

Looking for a rewarding way to give back to your community? The Queensland Fire Department is calling for locals to join the Cunnamulla Auxiliary Firefighter team.

Auxiliary Firefighters are casual, on-call heroes who help protect our town in emergencies like fires, road accidents, and rescues, while also promoting fire safety in the community. It's a hands-on, meaningful role where you'll learn new skills, work in a great team, and make a real difference - all while getting paid!

If you're 18 or older, hold a manual C-class driver's licence, and are an Australian or New Zealand citizen (or permanent resident) with or eligible for a Blue Card, we'd love to hear from you.

To find out more, contact Fire and Rescue Area Commander Caine Warburton on 0428 983 560.

YAPUNYAH LODGE - EXPRESSION OF INTEREST NOW OPEN

We are thrilled to announce that Yapunyah Lodge in Cunnamulla is now taking Expressions of Interest for Aged Care and Disability Care beds.

If you or a loved one may be interested in care at Yapunyah Lodge, please contact the team on admin@gssau.com.au or 0459 350 730 to obtain an expression of interest form. Otherwise hard copies can be collected from 7 Beardmore Street, Cunnamulla at Yapunyah Lodge.

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION MEETINGS

Everyone is welcome to talk to Council staff and Councillors.

Noorama: Racecourse
17th November 10am - 1.30pm

Yowah: YOMCSI Building
19th November 10am to 12pm

Eulo: Eulo Hall 19th November 1.30pm - 3:30pm

Wyandra: Wyandra Hall
20th November 10am - 12pm

Cunnamulla - Kookaburra Room
Council Office
20th November 5.30pm - 7pm

WYANDRA

For the start of term, Wyandra State School welcomed Jason Price as the new principal.

Jason, who has been at Wyandra before, said he was excited to be back in town and looking forward to an exciting last term with the children.

Wyandra publicans Karen and Simon were recently recognised by Lights On The Hill for their dedication to this event. 'Earlier this year we decided to help the transport industry in another way by providing a place on a long lonely road where our drivers can eat, shower and relax peacefully at any time of the day or night. This helps with driver fatigue and therefore will help prevent accidents on our long, lonely stretches of road,' said Karen.



EULO

Our playground is finished!
Thank you Paroo Shire
it is fantastic!



The Yapanha's are flowering,
and the bees are happy busily
making our beautiful honey.
A great place to see them is
along The Racetrack/Eulo
Granites Track, a 5-6 km return
walk/cycle across the Paroo River Flood Plain.

YOWAH

Tourist season might be cooling down with the weather warming up, but Yowah is still in the race!

Gather your friends and join in on a day filled with food and fun at the YOMSCI Community Hall at the Melbourne Cup Lunch event.

Doors open at 11am on Tuesday 4th November with sweeps, best hat prize and a yummy \$10 lunch.

Eat and drink, then stay and play this Cup Day! For more information email yowahcommunity@gmail.com

We welcome Senior Constable Toby Hughes, Officer in Charge at Eulo, and his family to the Paroo Shire. You've picked a great little town for your new home and workplace



POLICE BEAT

Disasters can happen quickly, but a little preparation goes a long way. Get Ready Queensland helps families and communities prepare for storms, floods, and other emergencies. Simple steps like making a plan, packing an emergency kit, and staying informed can make a big difference when bad weather hits.

Visit getready.qld.gov.au, or come down and see us at the Cunnamulla Police Station for easy tips to keep you, your family, and your neighbours safe during this high-risk weather season.