

DECEMBER 2025 &
JANUARY 2026

MONTHLY UPDATE



MESSAGE FROM THE CEO



The run into Christmas seems to be more like a gallop rather than a winding down these days. I hope your plans are well underway for the festive season.

Council has had a very busy time since the last newsletter including the very informative community consultations held in Noorama, Wyandra, Cunnamulla, Yowah and Eulo. A variety of topics were discussed, and Council now has an action list to focus on in the next six months. The action list is revisited at every council meeting to ensure we are delivering for the Shire.

I strongly encourage all residents to attend future consultations, as they provide a face-to-face opportunity to discuss any concerns with both the elected representatives and the senior executives.

November also saw the publication of Council's Annual Report, which celebrates the many achievements across the Shire as well providing a detailed understanding of Council's financial performance in the preceding year. I am pleased to report Council is in a strong financial position to deliver services to the community into the future.

Council teams have been very busy out and about, especially our road crews who have been delivering significant road upgrades on the Jobs Gate and Bollon-Charleville Roads. Its tough work so please thank them if you are passing them at work.

Council was also subject to a very thorough Health and Safety Management System Audit during the month, which I am delighted to say Council passed. We will use the audit as a basis to increase our focus on safety in 2026 as our primary focus is to ensure our staff and contractors return safely to their families at the end of the day.

If all this activity was not enough, our corporate team has been developing a new, fresh and fit-for-purpose website, which launched early December. Hopefully you enjoy it.

In the November newsletter we showcased Funky Shirt Friday. We were remiss in not highlighting the work of our former Workplace Health & Safety Officer, Chris Wickham, to get the initiative off the ground, including sourcing grant funding. Many thanks Chris.

In closing, I just want to thank the entire Council staff and the elected members for their dedication to the community in what has been a challenging year and wish everyone a healthy and prosperous 2026, whilst acknowledging the staff who have put their hand up to work over the festive break to ensure essential services are maintained.

Have fun but stay safe.

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

UPCOMING COUNCIL MEETINGS

- 11th December
- 20th January
- 17th February
- 17th March
- 21st April
- 19th May
- 16th June
- 21st July
- 18th August
- 15th September
- 13th October
- 17th November
- 15th December

JOB VACANCIES

- 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

If you'd like an electronic version of our newsletter, please scan QR Code to subscribe!



FINAL WINNERS & CALENDARS FOR 2025 PAROO SHIRE PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION



"Dawn Reflections at the Bore Pool"
by @brownieridesbougie

Each month features the incredible winning photos from the Paroo Shire Photography Competition and as an extra treat, your favourite Paroo Shire events and holidays have already been pencilled in. Perfect for keeping track of what's on all year within our region!

Limited copies available so don't miss out!

Email visitor@paroo.qld.gov.au, call 4655 8470, or drop by the Visitor Centre for more information.



"Eulo Sunset" by Belinda Palmer

Eulo Christmas Tree Event

Friday 12th December from 5.30pm at the Eulo Queen Hotel

Gamble Family Christmas Ham Run

Saturday 13th December from 3pm at the Cunnamulla Golf Club

Cunnamulla Men's Shed

Tuesday 16th December at 10am in the Kookaburra Room, CCEC

Wyandra Christmas Party

Wednesday 17th December from 5pm at the Wyandra Pub

Eulo Carbusters

Wednesday 31st December
Register from 6am - 2pm
at the Eulo Queen Hotel



Paroo Shire's Australia Day Awards

Monday 26th January from 8am at the Cunnamulla Pool

Eulo Australia Day Celebrations

Monday 26th January from 4pm at Eulo Park

Attention community clubs & groups

The Paroo Shire has a new website and with it a new Events page!

To have your event placed on our site please email the details to council@paroo.qld.gov.au

INFRASTRUCTURE UPDATE



Flood restoration funding from the Federal Government is supporting ongoing repairs along the Bollon–Charleville Road. Council has now completed 40km of road repairs with the remaining 20km to be finalised before Christmas, ensuring the route is restored and safe for the community as soon as possible.

The Jobs Gate Road (TIDS Project) is jointly funded by Transport and Main Roads and Paroo Shire Council. Works involve reconstructing the existing gravel pavement at the western end of Jobs Gate Road. Once pavement construction is complete, this section will be sealed as part of Council's long-term objective to deliver an all-weather sealed route that links with Brewarrina Shire's sealing program. The road crew is currently camped at Bundaleer, undertaking gravel winning, haulage activities, and supporting two new floodway constructions being delivered by local contractors.

To date, 4km of the 8km package has been sealed. The remaining 4km is planned to be sealed before the Christmas shutdown, with 3.3km currently in formation stage and progressing well toward the scheduled sealing completion date.

Works are progressing well at the Wyandra camp establishment site. Recent activities include earthworks and site levelling, sewer pit excavation, pier and footing installation, electrical trenching, and concrete slab installation.



WANT MORE ROADWORKS INFO?

In addition to information provided in these newsletters, "Roaming the Paroo Shire's Roads" will be published once a month with a detailed update from the Shire's road crews and SHEPHERD.

Keep an eye out for it on Facebook or on our website at www.paroo.qld.gov.au/roadworks

OUR NEW MEMORIAL WALL

The Memorial Wall has started, and the plinths are in place. With funding from Queensland Remembers Grants Program, bronze plaques inscribed with the names of all veterans and wars will be attached. In front of the memorial wall a low rosemary hedge for remembrance will be grown.



This new memorial will commemorate and acknowledge the involvement, service, and sacrifice of the Paroo region's service personnel in all major conflicts including WWII, Korean, Vietnam, Iraq and Afghanistan wars. There are nearly 750 names of locals who were involved in these wars.



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



WYANDRA

We held our "Ladies on the Land" event last month and it was an excellent night.

A huge thank you to our beautiful guest speakers, Shannon from *A Country Mum*, Sue from *Wire N Rust*, and Tricia from *The Bush Store* and *Heather Brown's Emporium*. Sharing your personal journeys with us was touching and inspirational. And thank you to those that joined us making these events memorable for us all.

EULO

We had a fantastic night at the Eulo State School concert! From musical bingo and trivia to a beautiful violin recital, the evening was full of fun and talent. The night finished with Christmas carols that had everyone smiling. We also held our Eulo Development Association AGM. Our office bearers for the coming year are: President - Pieter Knoetze, Vice President - Sheree Reid, Secretary - Aishling Knoetze, and Treasurer - Alice Bernardi. This crew is excited to keep social events happening in Eulo and make sure there's always something to look forward to.



Next up is Australia Day, which will be held at Eulo Park. We'll kick things off around 4pm with activities and fun for the whole family, followed by a community BBQ at 5pm. Everyone's welcome - come along, catch up with friends, and enjoy a great afternoon together!

YOWAH

We are thrilled to share the unboxing of our two new examination lamps to be used by the dedicated and hard-working Royal Flying Doctor Service of Australia Queensland Section on clinic days at YOMCSI Community Hall.

Because of your support, donations, and bought raffle tickets through YOMCSI, your generosity enables us to provide more services, and to do things for our small but fantastic community. Thank you to everyone who has supported YOMCSI. You help make a difference in the Yowah Community!



We also enjoyed a beautiful festive lunch prepared by Chrissy Higgins, Lesley Stewart, CACH Staff, Frontier Services, Cunnamulla Chemist, and Cunnamulla Newsagency - a group of kind, caring people who generously gave their time to support our community.

What a wonderful way to close out the year and we look ahead to an exciting 2026!



POLICE BEAT

As we head into the Christmas season, I want to take a moment to thank our community for the support you've shown us throughout the year. This is a special time for many families, friends and community, but it's also a time when we all need to take extra care.

Whether you're driving across town or heading away for the holidays, please take your time on the roads. Stick to the speed limit, avoid driving tired, put the phone away, and always wear your seatbelt. If you're planning to drink, plan not to drive - organise a designated driver or arrange a safe way home. Christmas is a time for joy, connection and celebration. Let's make sure it's also a safe one for everyone in our community.

On behalf of the team at Cunnamulla Police Station, I wish you and your families a safe and happy festive season.