

JULY 2026

MONTHLY UPDATE



MESSAGE FROM THE CEO



A lot happening across the Paroo Shire last month with plenty of positive news for our region, including some welcome rain and an uptick in visitor numbers.

Whilst contracts are still to be signed, the big news is that Paroo Shire Council has been awarded funding for a transfer station and undercover drop off centre at the Cunnamulla Waste Facility.

Funding will allow for the purchase of a crusher/shredder and a hook truck and skip bins which will be used to collect waste from Eulo, Wyandra and

Yowah. The crusher/shredder can be used for concrete, tyres and other waste materials.

At the June Council meeting, the budget for 2026/27 was set. Being mindful of the current economic environment, a modest 4.0% increase on rates, fees and charges was agreed. This is broadly in line with inflation and will allow Council to maintain (and improve) essential services and infrastructure, whilst being fiscally responsible.

The recent rain was very welcome for the Shire, but it was very disappointing to see damage on our road network when roads were closed.



This section was damaged and repaired at no cost by a local contractor, only for the damage to re-occur. The estimated repair cost for all damaged roads is \$60,000 to \$80,000 which will have to come out of the 2026/27 road maintenance budget. Council is considering introducing a penalty system for those damaging roads when the road has been closed to traffic.

In better news, I am delighted to announce two senior appointments to Council. Bill Zhang has joined from TMR as Deputy Director of Infrastructure. Nayeem Hossain has also joined us as Finance Manager bringing extensive experience in Queensland State Government including Queensland Treasury. Securing the services of these two exceptional recruits is a testament to Council's ability to attract top talent.

Finally, I recently spent a few days at the Stars of Charlotte Plains music festival with my daughter. A great event and I encourage everyone to get out to these events and support our local communities.

JUNE PHOTO COMP WINNER

We'd like to congratulate the June winner of the 2026 Paroo Shire Photography Competition!

July entries are now open!

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



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

UPCOMING COUNCIL MEETINGS

- 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!



ONLY 3 WEEKS FOR EXCLUSION RECOVERY FENCING FUNDING

You've already registered an expression of interest - now allow time for these essential tasks:

- Taking photos
- Collating documents
- Calling your Project Officer to ensure you have everything you need, or to support you in building your application.

Full applications to be submitted by 31 July 2026 via the online application portal. To learn more about the EFRG visit: <https://quilpie.qld.gov.au/.../exclusion-fencing.../>

This program is jointly funded by the Australian and Queensland Governments under the Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA).

AUSALERT IS HERE

AusAlert is Australia's new national warning system. It is a fast and reliable way to help communities be informed and better prepared during local and national emergencies.

On Monday the 27th July 2026, 2:00pm they are testing AusAlert across Australia.

At this time, your mobile phones, tablets and smart watches may receive a test alert that causes them to vibrate, make a loud siren-like sound for 10 seconds and turn the screen on automatically. This will happen even if the volume is turned down or your devices are on silent or do not disturb.

Read the AusAlert Fact Sheet here: www.paroo.qld.gov.au/News-and-Events/News/About-AusAlert

INFRASTRUCTURE UPDATE

Crews have completed approximately 4 km of heavy formation grading on Jobs Gate Road as part of the flood damage restoration work.

The works include approximately 33 km of programmed heavy formation grading to repair flood-damaged sections and improve overall road conditions. Works are currently on hold due to recent wet weather and site conditions. Crews will recommence works once conditions improve.

Construction crews are progressing DRFA flood damage restoration works on Hungerford Road. The project includes heavy formation grading along approximately 61.3 km of road to repair flood-damaged sections and improve overall road conditions.

To date, approximately 13.4 km of heavy formation grading has been completed, and gravel carting is continuing as part of the works.

The project is currently scheduled for completion in September 2026, weather and site conditions permitting. Some delays have occurred due to recent wet weather and site conditions.

Cleaning works at the sewage treatment plants have now been completed, and the town crew has commenced cleaning stormwater drains, gully pits and manholes. These works will help remove built-up silt, debris and other material from the drainage system, improving stormwater flow and supporting the ongoing maintenance of essential town infrastructure. The work is expected to take approximately three weeks to complete.

For a more detailed overview on roadworks read **Roaming Paroo Shire's Roads** on Council's website at www.paroo.qld.gov.au/roadworks



Yowah Opal Festival
17th - 19th July in Yowah

Cunnamulla Polocrosse Carnival
Saturday 18th - 19th July
From 8.30am-5.30pm
Cunnamulla Show Grounds

Julie Stone Art Exhibition
Thursday 6th August from 6pm
Cunnamulla Art Gallery

Back to Wyandra Race Day
Saturday 8th August
Gates open midday
Cunnamulla Race Course

Cunnamulla & District Show
Saturday 15th August
9.00am-11.00pm
Cunnamulla Show Grounds

Fishing Fun Day
Sunday 16th August
Register from 7am at Centenary Park

Cunnamulla Bowls Club Fours Carnival
Saturday 29th August
54 John Street, Cunnamulla

List Your Event

To list your event on both the Paroo Shire Event and Tourism calendars email council@paroo.qld.gov.au

Markets Cunnamulla
Where: Centenary Park
When: Sunday 12th July & Sunday 9th August
Time: 10am - 2pm

Eulo
Where: Town Park
When: Sunday 19th July & Sunday 23rd August

Yowah
Every Wednesday & Saturday from 5pm - 7pm

TOURISM UPDATE

Create Memories with an Artesian Adventure Pass!

Do you have friends or family visiting Cunnamulla during the school holidays? Help them experience some of the best attractions our region has to offer with an Artesian Adventure Pass!

The pass provides a full day of adventure and includes:

- Entry to the Cunnamulla Hot Springs
 - Entry to the Artesian Time Tunnel, Museum & Art Gallery
 - A ticket to the All Aboard Sound & Light Show
- Visitors can experience all three iconic Cunnamulla attractions at a discounted price of just:
- **Adults:** \$75
 - **Concession:** \$60
 - **Children (5-17 years):** \$45

The Artesian Adventure Pass is the perfect way to showcase our region to visiting friends and family while they discover the unique stories, history and natural wonders of Cunnamulla.

For more information or to purchase a pass, visit the Cunnamulla Visitor Information Centre during opening hours.

Cunnamulla Fella Roundup Saturday 12 September 2026

The countdown is on and this year's event is set to deliver an action-packed day of entertainment and excitement!

Get ready for a high-octane Super Bull & Motocross Stunt Show, featuring talented local and international riders competing for top honours.

For the first time in Cunnamulla, the National Barrel Horse Association (NBHA) will also bring their thrilling Barrel Racing and Pole Bending competition to town, showcasing incredible horsemanship, speed and skill.

With plenty more exciting announcements still to come, now is the time to secure your tickets!

Tickets are now available online:

<https://www.ticketebo.com.au/paroo-shire-council/cunnamulla-fella-roundup-2026>

Pre-purchase your tickets and save — tickets will be more expensive at the gate on the day. Bring your family, invite your friends and get ready for one of the biggest events on the Cunnamulla calendar!

HAVE YOU SEEN AN INDIAN MYNA IN THE PAROO SHIRE?

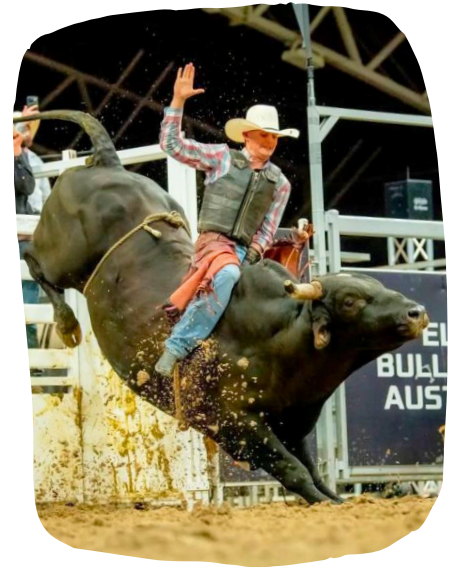
The Paroo Shire Council is collecting data on sightings of Indian Mynas.

If you do see one, please report the location and number of birds by calling Council on (07) 4655 8400

Please **DO NOT** feed them and if you see a dead one do not touch it as they spread diseases.

Read more about this introduced bird that is threatening many native wildlife species and how you can deter them from breeding and making your place its home:

<https://www.paroo.qld.gov.au/Services/Stock-Route-and-Pest-Management>



ILLEGAL DUMPING FINES INCREASED

The Queensland Government has increased fines for illegal dumping as of the 1st July 2026.

Under the Waste Reduction and Recycling Act 2011 (WRR Act), it is an offence for a person to unlawfully deposit waste.

A full list of the offences and penalties can be found here:

<https://www.qld.gov.au/environment/waste-reduction-recycling/litter-illegal-dumping/law#penalties>

If you see someone littering or illegal dumping from a vehicle, boat or trailer, or if you find piles of dumped waste, you can report it by using Council's Snap Send Solve App or using the Littering and illegal dumping reporting form: <https://www.qld.gov.au/environment/waste-reduction-recycling/litter-illegal-dumping/report>

YOWAH

Annual YOMCSI Memberships Are Now Due!

Being a member of YOMCSI means being part of what keeps our community thriving. It supports local events, community projects, our dedicated volunteers, and the ongoing maintenance of the facilities that benefit us all—not only the Community Hall and our much-loved Artesian Bore Bath, but also providing a safe and reliable facility for the RFDS and Queensland Health to use when delivering essential services to Yowah.

Together, we can continue building a stronger, more connected, and vibrant Yowah community for everyone.

Annual Membership Fees: Single – \$30 Couple – \$45
See a YOMCSI Committee Member to join or renew, or email yowahcommunity@gmail.com.

And please come and join us for our annual Yowah Opal Festival - it's shaping up to be another great event.



WYANDRA

It's with great excitement we welcome Senior Constable Rene Lasorsa and his family to Wyandra as our new police officer.

We hope you love our community as much as us.

We want to send a huge, big thankyou to everyone from the Shitbox Rally who took the time to drop into our little town late last month.

It was a great boost for our community with a lot of the locals taking the time to come out to check what the rally is all about. There was a lot time and effort put into the cars and outfits the rally guys and girls wore.

So far they have raised more than \$2 million for the Cancer Council from this rally alone!



POLICE BEAT



NAIDOC week this year we celebrated '50 Years of Deadly', through marches, events and recognition of the history, culture and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. It's great to see so many people out and about at these events, celebrating and having fun.

As the QLD school holidays come to an end, remember that road safety continues to be a focus. Expect RBT's, drug testing, speed enforcement and education to ensure we can keep our crashes and potential fatalities to a minimum as we continue into the year.

In other news, I have accepted the position of Officer in Charge at Cunnamulla Police Station. I look forward to working with you all and continuing to build our relationships between Police and our Community.

S/Sgt Rob Hanbidge

EULO

The recent rain may have changed the plans for Eulo Community Day, but the community BBQ and get-together still went ahead. It was great to catch up with everyone who could make it!

Our next tennis and social get-together will be held on Sunday, 26 July. Everyone is welcome to come along for a hit of tennis or simply for a catch-up.

Don't forget Christmas in July at the Eulo Queen Hotel on Saturday, 25 July! The Yellow Bellies Band will be there to get everyone up and dancing, so come along for a great night of music, food and fun.

We and our neighbours from the Bulloo Shire are happy to hear the Community Update for the replacement of the Paroo River Bridge.

This major project is estimated to decrease the hours the bridge is under water would be decreased from 247 to 134 hours. This will be a massive improvement for locals and visitors to our region.

A reminder that the Eulo Markets are also still running every second Sunday. Come along and support the stallholders.