

MURWEH

# MESSENGER

ISSUE 4 | JANUARY 2024

## 2024: THE YEAR AHEAD



**SHIRE OF MURWEH**

MORVEN - CHARLEVILLE - AUGATHELLA

AUGATHELLA | CHARLEVILLE | COOLADDI | MORVEN

[www.murweh.qld.gov.au](http://www.murweh.qld.gov.au)

## Contact Council

Phone: (07) 4656 8355

After Hours: (07) 4656 8355  
(and follow the prompts)

### IN PERSON:

95-101 Alfred Street,  
Charleville Qld 4470

### IN WRITING:

All correspondence should  
be forwarded to:

The Chief Executive Officer

Murweh Shire Council

PO Box 63

Charleville Qld 4470

Email: [mail@murweh.qld.gov.au](mailto:mail@murweh.qld.gov.au)



**SHIRE OF MURWEH**

MORVEN - CHARLEVILLE - AUGATHELLA

### CONTACT YOUR COUNCILLOR

Mayor Cr Shaun (Zoro) Radnedge

M: 0419 363 030

E: [shaun\\_radnedge@murweh.qld.gov.au](mailto:shaun_radnedge@murweh.qld.gov.au)

Cr Michael McKellar

M: 0438 830 383

E: [michael\\_mckellar@murweh.qld.gov.au](mailto:michael_mckellar@murweh.qld.gov.au)

Cr Paul Taylor

M: 0438 760 339

E: [paul\\_taylor@murweh.qld.gov.au](mailto:paul_taylor@murweh.qld.gov.au)

Cr Peter Alexander

M: 0417 905 435

E: [red\\_alexander@murweh.qld.gov.au](mailto:red_alexander@murweh.qld.gov.au)

Cr Robert Eckel

M: 0438 870 101

E: [robert\\_eckel@murweh.qld.gov.au](mailto:robert_eckel@murweh.qld.gov.au)

Got a story or event for the Murweh Messenger? Email council on [mail@murweh.qld.gov.au](mailto:mail@murweh.qld.gov.au).

Published by Contact Media  
[contactmedia.com.au](http://contactmedia.com.au).

## Councillor honoured for 11 Years of Service

In December Mayor Zoro presented Councillor Red Alexander with a certificate from the Local Government Association of Queensland (LGAQ) and the State government, to recognise his 11 years of service to the Community of Murweh. A great achievement and congratulations Cr Red.

**Pictured L to R:**  
Bruce Scott CEO,  
Mayor Zoro Radnedge,  
Cr Paul Taylor,  
Cr Red Alexander,  
Cr Michael McKellar,  
Deputy Mayor Robert Eckel.



## From the Mayor



**WELCOME TO 2024!** Last year was a big one for the Murweh Shire Council, marked by the re-opening of the racecourse, Rude Jude's retirement, and memorable events like the Halfway There Shindig, not to forget the increasingly popular Christmas Lights displays across our three towns.

It was also a productive year for the Council. We successfully completed major projects such as the Augathella Heritage Museum and the WWII Secret Base, and a substantial list of capital works programs and with more to be finished by the end of this financial year. Financially, we ended the 22/23 year

in surplus, witnessing a rise in Council's cash position from \$8.4 million to \$12.8 million—an impressive \$4.4 million increase from the previous year.

The upcoming year holds even greater promise for the Murweh Shire with an exciting line-up of events (refer to page 9) planned throughout the year for our three communities. Hosting these events remains crucial in promoting our Shire and showcasing its offerings. Events like the Queensland Music Festival play a pivotal role in fostering growth and opportunities beneficial to all.

Council would like to express its heartfelt gratitude to the clubs, organisations, and devoted volunteers across the Shire who've contributed to making our communities exceptional. All Councillors are proud to have supported your initiatives, adding vibrancy to our unique outback community.

As a council, we approach 2024 with optimism. Murweh Shire Council stands in a favourable position, poised for another fruitful year. Your ongoing support and engagement are essential in shaping the continued success of our Shire. I hope you enjoy the Murweh Messenger.

## GET PREPARED



We cannot stop natural disasters, but we can prepare for them. Fire and flood are two potential disasters our Shire faces annually. While both have their own checklists and mitigation plans, there are common factors; namely, you must be well prepared for the loss of services and swift departure with a well-stocked supplies and go-kit. You should have emergency supplies to last the duration of any extended flooding

or loss of services. At a **minimum**, according to the Queensland Fire and Emergency Services (QFES), for food and water you need:

- Water for three days (10 litres per person)
- Non-perishable food for three days

Find out what else you need to prepare here:

<https://www.qfes.qld.gov.au/prepare/emergency-kit>

### Morven Cricket Club Celebrates Grand Final Victory After 30 Years

The Morven community was gleaming with pride after securing a win in the 2023 grand final held in Tambo. The game marked Morven's return to the grand final stage since 1993 and their first grand final win since 1991. Congratulations to Morven on this historic win.



### Augathella enjoys super-fast fibre-to-premises connectivity

In November, Mayor Zoro proudly announced the successful connection of Augathella to the fibre-to-premises network. Exciting news as both Morven and Augathella are now fully operational for fibre-to-premises. **Thanks NBN Australia!**



Snap  
Send  
Solve

## HELP SOLVE PROBLEMS

Snap Send Solve is an app that allows members of the community to communicate issues with the Council like vandalism, potholes, illegal dumping, and fallen trees. There's no need for the Council office to be open or for direct communication with Council staff. Reporting an issue is straightforward: download the app, snap a photo with your camera, and send it to the Council. They'll take it from there to resolve the problem. It's as easy as pie!

Simply download the **SNAP SEND SOLVE** app and lend a hand in supporting Murweh



## Council Elections

The 2024 local government elections will include elections for mayors and councillors in each of Queensland's 77 councils. Election day will be on Saturday, 16 March 2024. Notice of election will be made on Monday 29 January and candidate nominations open the same day. Candidate nominations close on Tuesday 12pm 13 February 2024. Details of dates, times and locations will be available on the ECQ website during the election.

### ELECTION DAY

**Saturday 8am to 6pm 16 March 2024**

**CLOSE OF RETURN OF POSTAL VOTES  
Tuesday 26 March 2024**



The "Turf Oval Bridge" over the levee diversion in Alfred Street was named as a result of a competition held in Charleville to name the bridge. In December 2019 the winner was Lindsay Newby with the bridge being named **TURF OVAL BRIDGE**. The name comes from the oval that was at the end of where the bridge is now. Undoubtedly a few of the older locals will reminisce about their prowess on the cricket field when matches were played there, or the goals they scored in junior soccer. The diversion banks are now covering the oval.

## BATTERIES CAUSE 93 FIRES THIS YEAR

Rechargeable lithium-ion batteries (RLIB) are everywhere: power-tools, phones, laptops, e-bikes, vacuum cleaners and lots of children's toys, and can be recognised with any of these symbols: lithium-ion', 'Li-ion', 'li-po', 'lithium-polymer' or 'Li+'. When they are overcharged, damaged, left in the sun or charged inappropriately, they can catch fire or, in extreme cases, explode. If that's not bad enough, when overheated or on fire, li-ion batteries can create a highly toxic vapour cloud are difficult to put out with water or a fire extinguisher. Even if you do, re-ignition is likely to happen even if the fire seems to be extinguished.

This year alone, Queensland Fire and Emergency Services - QFES recorded 93 fires that were reported to being attributed to rechargeable lithium-ion battery (RLIB) devices. Understand the associated risks visit [www.qfes.qld.gov.au/lithium-ion](http://www.qfes.qld.gov.au/lithium-ion) for more information.



## The Great Artesian Basin Protest Grows Louder

Back in July at the National General Assembly of Local Government in Canberra, Murweh Shire, as a part of Southwest Queensland Regional Organisation of Councils (SWROC), called on the Federal and State governments for more information into the proposed the Carbon Transport and Storage Corporation (CTSCo) potentially injecting up to 110,000 tonnes of CO<sup>2</sup> per year into the Great Artesian Basin (GAB). Murweh's Shire Council, staunch opponents of the project, asked hypothetically if the government would allow this project to begin if it was proposing pumping 110,000 tonnes of CO<sup>2</sup> under the Great Barrier Reef?

Since then, the voice of opposition to this project has grown louder each month with several national organisations joining the call for more collaboration. Farmers for Climate Action, AgForce, Australian Lot feeders' Association, Queensland Farmers Federation and the National Farmers Federation and SWROC and NWROC have all called on the government for more consultation before going ahead. The Murweh Council says ultimately the government should work collaboratively with stakeholders to protect the Great Artesian Basin for regional communities.



## COMMUNITY GETS BEHIND POTENTIAL DR ARIOTTI FILM

The filmmaker granddaughter of long-time Charleville resident doctor, Dr Louis Ariotti visited town late last year to learn more about her granddad from locals for a potential film project and generated a stir on social media. Thank you to all the people who contributed, online and in person. It's little wonder why when we learn more of the remarkable tenure of Dr Ariotti. In an extract from *Bush Doctors* Annabelle Brayley writes:

**In 1978, Charleville had a population of roughly 3000 people and boasted several doctors....**

Dr Ariotti started his practice in Charleville in 1947 and, over the course of his forty-year career in South West Queensland, performed everything from appendectomies to major orthopaedic procedures, caesarean sections to surgery for traumatic brain injury.

**We'll keep you updated as to the film.**





## THE RIGHT ADDRESS?

Council Rates will be delivered by post in mid-February. To ensure you can take advantage of the **10% discount** for prompt payment, ensure your mailing address is correct and your notice isn't misaddressed. To check your address, you can contact council via any method listed on the inside front cover of this publication.



## Cosmos Centre

Lots happening this year at the dark skies above Charleville. Our unique position makes the ultimate spot to explore our universe. The team have a lot of great events planned this year.

### SOME EVENTS WILL INCLUDE:

- How to use a telescope
- How to take a picture of the night sky with your phone
- Guest speakers

And don't forget that April is Global Astronomy Month with lots of activities planned. Head to the centre's social pages to keep up to date with dates and times.

CharvilleCosmosCentre



# Murweh Shire Gears Up for a Spectacular Australia Day Celebration in 2024

Murweh Shire Council is gearing up to host Australia Day celebrations at the Charleville showgrounds on Friday 26th January, promising an evening filled with entertainment, festivities, and community spirit.

Gates will open at 5pm, with the announcement of the Australia Day Awards winners at 5:30pm, recognising and honouring individuals who have made exceptional contributions to the community.

There will be live performances including The 78 Sound, food trucks and plenty of games to keep the kids entertained including a jumping castle and face-painting.

The crowning moment of the evening will be the fireworks display, set to light up the night sky at 8 pm.

Residents are encouraged to bring their friends and families, set up their picnic spots, and immerse themselves in the event. Mayor Zoro said "It's a perfect opportunity for the community to come together, celebrate shared values, and create lasting memories".

For the latest updates and additional information, residents can check the official Murweh Shire Council website and Facebook page.



### ABOUT THE EVENT:

**Date:** Friday 26th January  
**Time:** Gates open at 5 pm  
**Location:** Charleville Showgrounds

**Note:** In the event of adverse weather conditions, residents are advised to check Council's website and facebook pages for updates on the celebration.

# Charleville Christmas Lights Tour 2023 Illuminates the Community Spirit

The 2023 Charleville Christmas Lights Tour was a resounding success with residents turning out in overwhelming numbers to partake in the pre-tour festivities, setting the stage for a memorable evening full of festive cheer.

One of the highlights of the event was the presence of not just one, but two Santas, spreading double the holiday magic. The dedicated Emergency Services team, known for their unwavering commitment to serving the Charleville community, played an integral role in ensuring the success of the event and the safety of participants.

Graham Andrews Park became a hub of excitement as local children eagerly queued up to have a special moment with Santa.

The Charleville Christmas Lights Tour 2023 not only illuminated the streets with dazzling displays but also showcased a strong sense of community spirit.

## Augathella Christmas in the Park

Christmas in the Park was a huge success again in December. Santa visited the kids along with the Christmas Lights competition judging. A great night had by all. Thank you Augathella.

## Morven Christmas Lights Displays

Morven Christmas Lights competition entries were rolling in through the month of December. The town was filled with beautiful displays. Congrats and thank you to all who entered.



Augathella Christmas in the park



Morven Christmas Lights Displays



Not one, but two Santas! Steve Hockam (R) accepting his prize for Best Car from David Ross (L), the real Santa!



Santa was kept very busy with a steady line of children waiting patiently for a photo and a lolly.



The Charleville community showed up in overwhelming numbers to enjoy the festivities ahead of the tour.



Local children enjoying a moment with Santa on the Big Red Chair in Graham Andrews Park.



Teri Sommerfield, a Charleville resident, bringing cheer to the children with her festive face painting.

# 2024 The Year AHEAD

2024 is set to be a big one for the Shire with events galore throughout the year.

## 2024 EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

DATE	EVENT
23-24 February	Adrian Vowles Cup
17 March	Charleville Triathlon
28-31 March	Smith Family Cod Classic
30 March-1 April	Augathella Easter Weekend
30 March	Augathella Diggers Easter Rodeo
31 March	Augathella Billy Cart Races
1 April	Augathella Easter Monday Races
13 April	Historic House 100 years celebration
20 April	QMF Outback Music Trail Charleville
16-19 May	Charleville Show
13-14 July	Outback Golf Masters Charleville
August	Charleville Performing Arts Festival
7 September	Morven Races
8 September	Bilby Open Day
13-15 September	Charleville's Creative Lane
September	U11's Mulga Cup
27-29 September	Wings on the Warrego
5 October	Self Care We Care Multicultural Festival
November	Augathella Hospital Auxillary Fete
November	Charleville Cup Festival



Augathella Diggers Easter Rodeo



Augathella Billy Cart Races



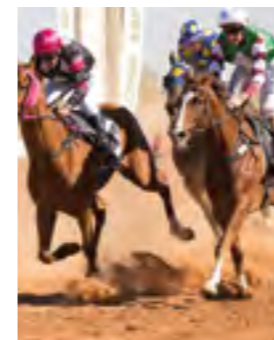
Augathella Easter Weekend



Mulga Cup



Charleville Bilby Experience



OMF Music Trails

# 2023: The Year That Was

Looking back at 2023

## QMF Big Base Party

It was a party like no other, with shidiging and dancing and twisting and tuning.



## Halfway There Shindig

The fun began with the region's pre-party to the Big Red Bash.

## WWII Secret Base Opens

Packed with politicians, dignitaries and veterans, the base opened to a fanfare on the 11th of Novmeber.



## RSL Outback Heroes exhibition

Opening on Remembrance Day, the exhibition continues to delight.

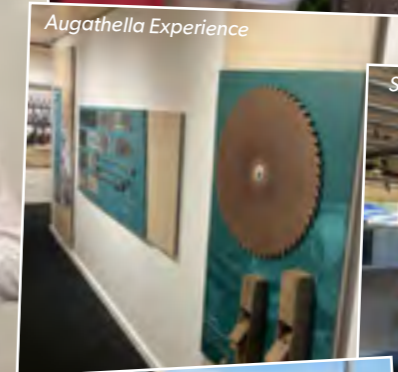
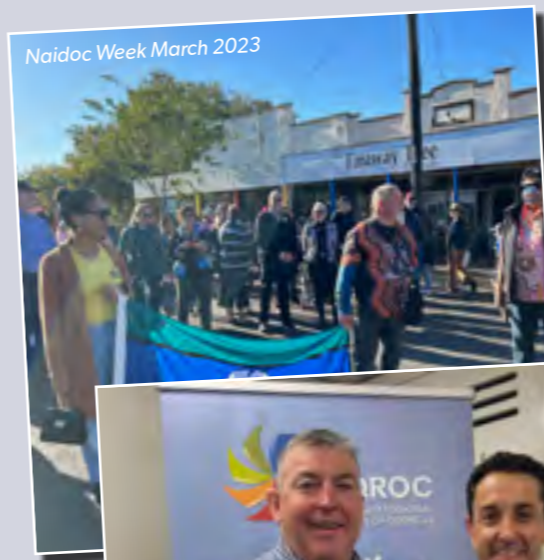


## Augathella Experience

A rare treat for movies buffs, the exhibition continues to delight.

## Airfield Museum

Charting Charleville's rich aviation heritage.



# 2023

# HIGHLIGHTS



# Lots to Do in the Library

**Membership is free** for everyone, you're never too young to sign up (proof of address required). Tourists cards are available for people travelling throughout Rural Queensland, join for free and take your reading on the road!



**First Five Forever Starts back in Feb 2024**



**WE HAVE TWO SOCIAL MEDIA PAGES FOR ALL THINGS LIBRARY:**

**Murweh Libraries** **Murweh\_libraries**

# Murweh Shire Council INFRASTRUCTURE UPDATES

Council has announced a series of significant infrastructure updates for 2024, from leisure facilities to essential services, the projects aim to cater to diverse community needs.

## SOME OF THE KEY PROJECTS ON THE AGENDA INCLUDE:

### Toddler Pool & Shade Structure:

Among the highlights is the construction of a new toddler pool coupled with a shade structure.

### Augathella Truck Wash:

Council has initiated the establishment of an Augathella Truck Wash, ensuring a vital resource for local businesses and the broader community.

### Canteen Upgrade – Charleville Showgrounds:

This improvement aims to better serve the community during events.

### Newmarket Bar Upgrade – Charleville Racecourse Complex:

At the Charleville Racecourse Complex, the Newmarket Bar is set to undergo a significant upgrade. This enhancement will further elevate the facilities, providing an improved atmosphere for racegoers and event attendees.

### Resealing of Various Streets in Charleville:

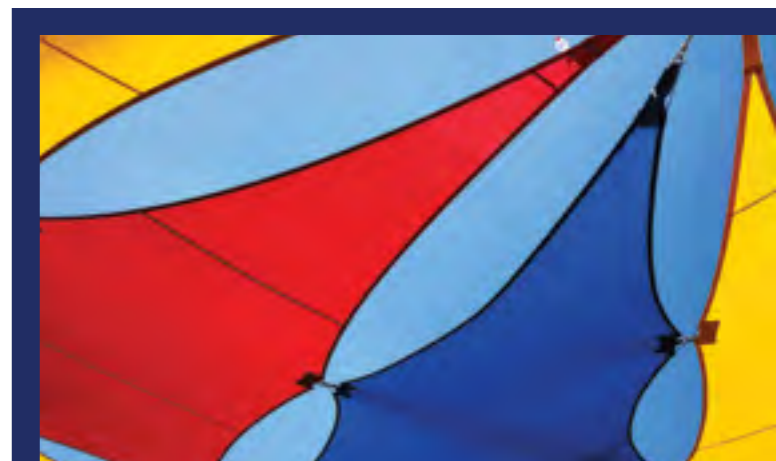
Aiming to improve local infrastructure, Council has scheduled the resealing of various streets in Charleville.

### Charleville Sewerage Treatment Plant:

Council is overseeing upgrades to the Charleville Sewerage Treatment Plant. This project aligns with environmental standards while catering to the growing needs of the community.

### CCTV Camera Installation:

Recognizing the significance of community safety, Council is undertaking the installation of Closed-Circuit Television (CCTV) cameras, creating a secure environment for residents and visitors.





# Social Services in the Murweh Shire Community

Murweh Shire has a host of social services available to the community. We have prepared a guide to the support systems available in the Shire aiming to connect residents with resources.

- Charleville Neighbourhood Centre**  
Website: [charvillenc.org.au](http://charvillenc.org.au)
- HOPE Program**  
Contact: Jenny Peacock  
Website: [southwest.health.qld.gov.au](http://southwest.health.qld.gov.au)
- CWAATSICH (Charleville and Western Areas Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Corporation for Health)**  
Email: [charleville@cwaatsich.org.au](mailto:charleville@cwaatsich.org.au)  
Website: [cwaatsich.org.au](http://cwaatsich.org.au)
- Healthy Ageing**  
Email: [tay.winchester@health.qld.gov.au](mailto:tay.winchester@health.qld.gov.au) or [Deb.Alick@health.qld.gov.au](mailto:Deb.Alick@health.qld.gov.au)
- FarWest Indigenous Family Violence Service**  
Community Worker: Donna Enders  
Contact: 0428 600 677  
Email: [denders@cphcc.com.au](mailto:denders@cphcc.com.au)

- Charleville and District Cultural Association**  
Email: [cvilledistculturalassocinc@gmail.com](mailto:cvilledistculturalassocinc@gmail.com)  
Facebook: Charleville Cultural Centre
- LifeLine**  
Email: [charleville@lifelinedarlingdowns.org.au](mailto:charleville@lifelinedarlingdowns.org.au)  
Website: [lifelinedarlingdowns.org.au](http://lifelinedarlingdowns.org.au)
- Drug ARM**  
Contact: (07) 3620 8880  
Address: 102 Alfred Street, Charleville  
Website: Drug ARM
- Blue Light Learner Driver Program**  
Contact: Jenny Peacock (0429 637 137)
- Sun Safe Project**  
Contact: Jenny Peacock (0429 637 137)

## CROSSWORD

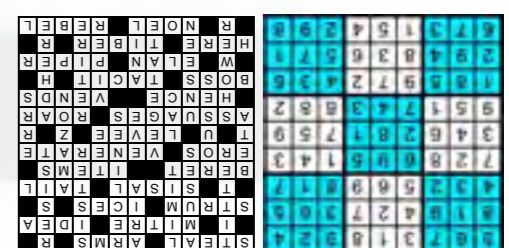
1	2		3	4		5	6		7		8
			9						10		
11						12					
			13						14	15	
16		17					18	19			
20					21	22					23
				24							
25	26		27						28		29
	30								31		
32					33	34					
			35						36		
37					38						
			39						40		

- ACROSS**
- Across
  - 1 Take by theft
  - 5 Weapons
  - 9 Bishop's headdress
  - 10 Notion
  - 11 Play unskillfully
  - 12 Frozen treats
  - 13 Agave fibre
  - 14 Appendage
  - 16 Headwear
  - 18 Articles
  - 20 Love god
  - 21 Revere
  - 24 Riverside embankment
  - 25 Mitigates
  - 28 Bellow
  - 30 In the future
  - 31 Sells
  - 32 Employer
  - 33 Unspoken
  - 35 Dash
  - 36 Scottish musician
  - 37 This place
  - 38 Rome's river
  - 39 Christmas
  - 40 Insurgent
- DOWN**
- 2 Stifled laugh
  - 3 Entertains
  - 4 Restrict
  - 5 Operatic air
  - 6 Lays on the back
  - 7 Family member
  - 8 Oppose
  - 15 S. American river
  - 16 Greek letter
  - 17 Awakens
  - 19 Golf mound
  - 21 Live a dull life
  - 22 First woman
  - 23 Does wrong
  - 24 Dark-red resin
  - 26 Light rainfall
  - 27 Invisible
  - 28 Withdraw
  - 29 Stick
  - 31 Adder
  - 34 Indigo

## SUDOKU

			3			9	2	4
8	1			2				
					9			7
			6					
3				8				9
	5	1	7				8	
	8				2		3	
		4					7	1
				5				

DIFFICULTY LEVEL: ★★☆☆







**Australia Day**

Reflect. Respect. Celebrate.



# Australia Day



**Charleville  
Showgrounds**

**5pm,  
January  
26, 2024**

**The 78  
Sound**



**Food  
Trucks**



**Fun  
Games**

**Jumping  
Castle**



**Fire  
Works**



**Face  
Painting**

