

# **COMMUNITY CONNECT**

Quarterly Newsletter

A newsletter for the interest of residents and visitors

SEPTEMBER 2025

# **Welcome to the Coonamble Shire Community Newsletter**



Dear Coonamble Shire Residents,

It is with great pleasure that I welcome you to this edition of the Coonamble Shire Community Newsletter! Our team at Coonamble Shire Council is excited to relaunch this quarterly printed newsleter, designed to keep you informed, engaged, and connected with the latest updates, events, and initiatives happening across our vibrant community.

This newsletter will be included with your quarterly rate notice mailout and will also be available on the Council's website for easy access. Our goal is to provide you with timely, relevant, and interesting information about local projects, services, and opportunities that matter to you. From community events and infrastructure updates to

important announcements and ways to get involved, we aim to make this newsletter a valuable resource for every resident.

We are committed to fostering a strong, inclusive, and thriving community, and we hope this newsletter serves as a platform to celebrate achievements, and keep you in the loop about what's happening in Coonamble Shire.

We look forward to bringing you regular updates and working together to make our community an even better place to live, work, and grow.

Daniel Keady Mayor, Coonamble Shire Council

## **Mt Magometon Quarry Operations Update**

Council is pleased to share recent developments regarding the operations of Mt Magometon Quarry.

Improvement Notices Lifted: All improvement notices previously issued have been successfully addressed and lifted, ensuring full compliance with regulatory standards.

**New Manager Appointed:** A contract quarry manager has been appointed to oversee operations, bringing expertise and leadership to enhance efficiency and safety.

**Resumption of Sales:** Sales from the existing stockpile are expected to resume between late September and early October 2025, meeting market demand.

**Production:** The mobile crusher will become operational in October 2025, alongside the commencement of blasting and drilling activities, boosting production capacity.

These updates reflect Coonamble Shire Council's commitment to the effective and safe operation Mt Magometon Quarry.

# DESEX YOUR PET Preventing unwanted litters ~ 1 to 30 September 2025 Coonamble Shire Council, supported by NorthWest Vets, offers free desexing for pets of residents of Coonamble Shire

Bookings are essential at NorthWest Vets (6822 1381). Limited spots available.

#### **WASTE FACILITY OPENING HOURS:**

#### **Coonamble Waste Facility**

Monday – Thursday: 7am – 4pm Friday: CLOSED

Saturday & Sunday: 9am - 4pm

#### **Gulargambone Waste Facility**

Tuesday: 2pm – 5pm Thursday: 2pm – 5pm Saturday: 2pm – 5pm

#### **Quambone Waste Facility**

Tuesday: 2pm – 5pm Friday: 2pm – 5pm Saturday: 8am – noon

#### Council Nominated for Champion Employer of the Year Award

Coonamble Shire Council has been nominated for a prestigious community award, CHAMPION EMPLOYER OF THE YEAR, this recognition acknowledged the Councils exceptional contribution to not only employment but education and support services within the community.

This nomination is a reflection of the Council's commitment to empowering individuals and strengthening our local workforce through inclusive initiatives such as training, mentoring and career development. The positive impact of these efforts has been felt throughout our Shire. Council thanks Verto for the nomination.



25 Sept, NAIDOC Family Fun Day 26 Sept, Eleanor Bryant Memorial Scholarship Art Exhibition & Auction 27-28 Sept, Pave the Way to Gular Street Festival

30 Sept, Spring Fun Colour Run
3-4 Oct, Dumpling Making Masterclass:
Craft Healthy, Traditional Dumplings
5 Oct, Vision Splendid Coonamble
12 Oct, Gold Cup Race Meeting
Coonamble Jockey Club

Find out more & add your event here!



#### **UPCOMING ORDINARY MEETING DATES OF COONAMBLE SHIRE COUNCIL:**

8 October 2025, 9:00am in Coonamble at Council Chamber Admin Building 12 November 2025, 9:00am in Coonamble at Council Chamber Admin Building 10 December 2025, 9:00am in Coonamble at Council Chamber Admin Building

#### **EMERGENCY CONTACTS:**

Water & Sewerage 0428 217 420 Other Emergencies 0458 271 881 Regulatory Officer 0427 255 881

# School holiday's are starting soon!

View the Coonamble Shire, School holiday programs for Coonamble, Gulargambone & Quambone on Council's website www.coonambleshire.nsw.gov.au/community/free-holiday-fun-program





Newly re-elected Coonamble Shire Council Deputy Mayor, Steven Butler alongside Mayor, Daniel Keady.

# Announcement: Election of Coonamble Shire Deputy Mayor

On Wednesday, 10th September 2025, during the September 2025 Ordinary Council Meeting, the Councillors of Coonamble Shire Council elected Councillor Steven Butler as Deputy Mayor for a one-year term, concluding in September 2026.

On behalf of Coonamble Shire Council, Mayor Daniel Keady extends heartfelt congratulations to Councillor Butler on his appointment. The Mayor and Council warmly welcome him to this leadership role and express their confidence in his ability to serve the community with dedication and vision.

"We are delighted to see Councillor Butler reelected into the role of Deputy Mayor," said Mayor Daniel Keady. "His commitment to the Coonamble Shire and his passion for our community's growth and wellbeing make him an excellent choice for this position. Council looks forward to working closely with him over the coming year to achieve our shared goals and deliver positive outcomes for our residents."

# **Coonamble Shire Council Achievements Sept 2024 – Aug 2025**

Coonamble Shire Council has made significant progress over the past year, delivering impactful projects and services for our community. Below is a summary of key achievements:

### STRATEGIC AND COMMUNITY INITIATIVES

Adopted Key Plans: Finalised the Community Strategic Plan, Delivery Program, and Operational Plan, supported by extensive community consultation and underpinned by long-term financial, workforce, and asset management strategies.

Statutory Compliance: Completed all required reporting, including Annual Reports, Financial Statements, and Public Interest Disclosures to the NSW Ombudsman. Achieved 95% compliance with the Audit, Risk, and Improvement Committee (ARIC), receiving positive feedback on risk and operations oversight.

Community Engagement: Conducted a Community Satisfaction Survey and workshop, hosted the NSW Governor on 19 June 2025, and held Appreciation Morning Teas for seniors, youth, sporting bodies, and community groups.

Community Support: Provided \$36,000 in donations to local organisations, including Coonamble Community Radio, Clay Target Club, and Meals on Wheels, among others.

Councillor Development

Delivered comprehensive induction programmes, including a Councillor Handbook, workshops with Graeme Fleming, and a 12-month Mayor Mentoring Programme.

#### **SPECIAL PROJECTS**

Accessibility Improvements: Installed accessible doors at the Visitors Information Centre and Services NSW.

**Sporting Facilities:** Constructed female amenities at Coonamble Sportsground and changerooms/canteen at Gulargambone Sportsground.

Coonamble Artesian and Cultural Experience: Progressed with site surveys, bore design, wastewater reuse plans, and concept plans for the Racecourse site.

**Subdivision Developments:** Advanced Yarran Street and Hickey/Limerick Street subdivisions, including civil and electrical designs, DA approvals, and infrastructure construction.

Youth Accommodation: Demolished old structures and secured builders for new accommodation in Coonamble and Gulargambone.

**Drought Preparedness:** Adopted the Regional Drought Preparedness Plan with the Far North West Joint Organisation.

Infrastructure and Roads

Tooraweenah Road Upgrade: Secured

\$18.2 million for upgrades, completed environmental reviews, procured culverts, and enhanced community consultation.

Warren Road and McCullough Street: Completed upgrades, including sealing, parking, and tree planting.

**Flood Damage Funding:** Secured over \$6.65 million for flood damage repairs and restoration.

**Quambone Signage:** Upgraded tourism signage.

#### **URBAN SERVICES AND UTILITIES**

Aerodrome and Cemeteries: Issued RFQ for aerodrome fencing, constructed Pioneer Cemetery fencing, and installed new columbariums at all three cemeteries.

Parks and Sporting Facilities: Upgraded irrigation, lighting, and driveways at various showgrounds, ovals, and parks, and secured funding for Main Street Gardens.

Water Infrastructure: Proved structural integrity of Coonamble Water Tower, established an in-house capital works team, and operationalised a first-response trailer.

Fleet Management: Implemented the Formbird Fleet Management System.

Coonamble Shire Council remains committed to enhancing our community's infrastructure, services, and quality of life. Council thanks the community for their continued support.

