

YOUR LOCAL

# news

CHRISTMAS EDITION | ISSUE 196

## MAYORS MESSAGE



As we end 2024 Council has a new senior management team with General Manager Hein Basson, Director of Infrastructure Matthew Francisco and Director of Corporate Services Liz Alley. Our new leadership team is working with a significantly reduced but dedicated staff. We also welcome our new Councillors Bancroft, Purcell and Turner and welcome back continuing Councillors Bonner, Murphy, Peters, Petty, Rhodes and Sauer and thank outgoing Deputy Mayor Macnish and Councillor Nye for their service to the community. Councillor Sauer has been elected as Deputy Mayor.

Highlights of the year have included:

- Tripartite Agreement with State and Federal governments for disaster funding which provides upfront staged funding instead of council having to pay first and wait for a rebate. This dramatically improves council's cash flow and sincere thanks to Minister Aitchison for responding to our plea. This is an immense game-changer for our Council. Outstanding assessments and approvals have also been expedited as many of these have been in limbo for over 2 years. Council has been frustrated by slow government assessment and approvals of disaster claims from 2021 onwards so we look forward to these works now progressing.
- Ongoing Bridge replacements.
- Completion of the Urbenville Water Augmentation program.
- Commencement of the new waste cell at Boonoo Boonoo landfill.
- Commencement of Emergency Water Programs for Legume, Liston, Drake and Torrington and repair of the bore in Shirley Park.
- Full operation of the Tenterfield Water Treatment plant, continuing works replacing aged pipe infrastructure through town and installation of Smart Meters in Tenterfield CBD.
- Near completion of Drake Village Revitalisation roads, drainage and footpath works.
- Rural addressing signs underway.
- Removal of roadside vegetation in bushfire areas.
- Council officially now the Crown Land Manager of Mt Mackenzie Lookout.
- Border Mountain Trails signage near completion.
- Increased social media promotion of the Shire attractions through the Tenterfield Chamber of Tourism, Industry and Business contract and new brochures being printed for Shire attractions, town heritage walk, cemetery walk and a decision pending on a TCTIB face to face visitor centre.
- Establishment underway of a Not for Profit Organisation to oversee the School of Arts, and advocacy for National Heritage listing of the site to open an additional funding pathway.
- Cobb & Co Heritage weekend at Tenterfield and Liston, Cobb & Co Heritage Drive application.
- Construction of new outdoor basketball court at Jubilee Park and refurbishment of the netball courts, improvements to playgrounds/parks.
- Heavily reduced swimming pool entry fees trial to encourage water safety.
- Library programs including Make it 'Storytime', Youth and Seniors Weeks support and Tech Savvy workshops.
- Establishment of Memorial Garden and shelter in Millbrook Park by Tenterlife.
- Commencement of work on the restabilisation of the Tenterfield Creek through Rotary and Millbrook Parks.
- Strong financial management since 2022 has been a key factor. The improved financial situation and consideration of community impacts allowed Councillors to twice defer further requests for rate increases so there will be no Special Rate Variation at least until 2026/27 however the financial situation remains challenging and staffing levels have been reduced to 82 Full Time Equivalent down from 112.
- Advocacy continues for assistance for NSW landowners following the devastating October 2023 bushfires equitable to that received by the QLD landowners; health services including a 4WD ambulance for Tenterfield; fairer Federal distribution of financial support for councils and removal of cost shifting by governments; bridge; swimming pool and airport funding; and extension of the Angry Bull Trail program.

With regard to Rates and Charges notices please look at the invoice which separates Rates from Charges. Even with the 43% increase last year the average residential rate in the Tenterfield Shire Council is less than the average of most neighbouring councils. Council charges however are higher in some categories as they are divided between the users, and our smaller population means less people to share the burden of water and sewer costs. Councillors and staff will be looking in depth at all the charges for next year's budget. Please advise Council of any water, sewer or waste issue and include the location so that it can be investigated and fixed.

I express my thanks and gratitude to the councillor team, the staff and the community and wish you all a happy, holy and safe Christmas and hope to meet you at the Community Engagement meetings scheduled for December.

*Mayor Bronwyn Petrie*

# Community Engagement



## LET'S SHAPE OUR FUTURE TOGETHER!

Our new Community Strategic Plan needs to be ready for implementation June 2025 and you can share your input over the coming months.

It is time to review our current Community Strategic Plan (CSP), **Tenterfield 2032**, to see what has changed and make sure the plan reflects everything our community wants the Tenterfield Shire to be by 2036.

The CSP is a key component of the Integrated Planning & Reporting Framework. It is written on behalf of the community to represent their main priorities and aspirations for the future and to plan strategies for achieving these goals. It guides all remaining strategies and plans written by Council including the Delivery Program and Operational Plan.

The timeframe for a CSP is 10 years and it describes outcomes and goals on 5 main topics:

- Community - accessible and inclusive
- Economy - good opportunities
- Environment - well looked after
- Transport - easy to get around
- Leadership - a sustainable future

Tell us how you want Tenterfield Shire to evolve in the future! We are committed to gaining feedback on our new strategic directions. There are a number of ways you can get involved:

- **Read** - download and read the 'State of Our Shire' for an update on progress made on the CSP in the previous term of Council - [State of Our Shire Report](#) - [tenterfield.nsw.gov.au](http://tenterfield.nsw.gov.au)
- **Respond** - take the [survey](#) to express your views - see the QR code below
- **Attend** - come to a public information session: see dates, times and places on the next page.

### What's Next?

At the conclusion of the current period of community engagement Council will prepare a draft Community Strategic Plan called **Tenterfield 2036**. This is expected to take place at the Council meeting scheduled for February 2024, and the draft document will be placed on public exhibition for community review before final adoption by the Council in June 2025.

## HAVE YOUR SAY

Scan the QR code to access the  
Tenterfield Shire Council  
**Towards Tenterfield 2036 Survey**  
or visit  
[tenterfield.nsw.gov.au](http://tenterfield.nsw.gov.au)



# Community Engagement Dates, Times & Places

Please come along to one of our information sessions to have your say!

| Monday, 2<br>December                       |         | Tuesday, 3<br>December          |                               | Wednesday, 4<br>December                    |         | Thursday, 5<br>December         |         |
|---|---------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|---|---------|---------------------------------|---------|
| Tenterfield<br>Memorial Hall<br>(Session 1) | 8am     | Urbenville<br>Community<br>Hall | 10am<br>(NSW)<br>9am<br>(QLD) | Mingoola<br>Community<br>Hall               | 10.30am | Bolivia<br>Community<br>Hall    | 9.00am  |
| Drake<br>Community<br>Hall                  | 11.30am | Legume<br>Community<br>Hall     | 2pm<br>(NSW)<br>1pm<br>(QLD)  | Sunnyside<br>Community<br>Hall              | 2.30pm  | Torrington<br>Community<br>Hall | 12.30pm |
| Jennings<br>Community<br>Hall               | 3.30pm  | Liston<br>Community<br>Hall     | 6pm<br>(NSW)<br>5pm<br>(QLD)  | Tenterfield<br>Memorial Hall<br>(Session 2) | 6.00pm  |                                 |         |

## TRIPARTITE AGREEMENT

Following representations from Council regarding the financial impacts on Council's finances of the Disaster Funding Arrangements, Tenterfield Shire Council was offered the opportunity to enter a Tripartite agreement between Tenterfield Shire Council, the NSW Reconstruction Authority and Transport for New South Wales that provided advance funding for these projects. This agreement was signed in May 2024. In June 2024 Council received \$14.42 Million as part of an advance payment schedule to fund these projects. This funding consisted of an advance payment of \$7.8 Million for Dumaresq Bridge construction and \$6.6 Million for various assets impacted by disaster event AGRN 1012.

This agreement has greatly assisted Council in managing its cash flow as prior to signing this agreement Council would pay for disaster related projects and wait a considerable amount of time for reimbursements from the State Government. Due to the cost of these disaster repairs, Council would not have been able to engage contractors to carry out these works without this advance funding. Council finance staff have invested this advance money in accordance with NSW Government guidelines to ensure the community obtains the maximum benefit from the advance funding, while the delivery of the projects takes place.



Dumaresq Bridge (Black Creek)

## INTRODUCING DIRECTOR CORPORATE SERVICES - LIZ ALLEY

The General Manager, Hein Basson, would like to introduce Liz Alley to our community. Liz has started her position as Director Corporate Services with Council on 28 October, and forms a part of Council's Leadership Executive Team - with particular responsibility for Finance, Planning and Development, Governance, Integrated Planning and Reporting (strategic planning), Library services and oversight of the School of Arts.

Liz brings with her a wealth of knowledge and experience in Local Government, and is looking forward to add value to Council's operations and foster strong teams within her department.

Liz is also enthusiastic about the opportunity to meet residents and ratepayers during the forthcoming community consultation sessions, and to manage the development of the updated suite of documents setting the strategic direction for Council and the community over the next four years.



# THE BUSINESS END OF 2024



*The Mayor,  
Councillors, General Manager &  
Staff extend their wishes for a safe  
and happy Christmas to the  
Tenterfield Shire Community*

## TENTERFIELD'S TOWN WATER QUALITY

Tenterfield Shire Council wishes to reassure the community that the town drinking water quality is safe for consumption and leaving the water treatment plant well within specifications set by NSW Health.

Council understands there has been an increased amount of discoloured water within the reticulation system caused by warmer temperatures, increased demand, dam turn over and aging reticulation or pipework infrastructure with Council staff working to alleviate these issues.

Water mains flushing has been occurring daily to remove the discoloured water from the towns extremities. This process can also draw discoloured water to other areas previously unaffected, however this process is essential in taking this coloured water out of the system.

Tenterfield Council is in the process of engaging an air scour company to carry out a more substantial clean of the full reticulation system removing all build-up of particles within the pipework which occur in all water reticulation systems.

Council appreciates the community's patience during this time and would again like to reassure the public that the town water quality is safe for consumption. For a review of the water quality Council produces, water quality information available to the public which can be accessed through the Council website [www.tenterfield.nsw.gov.au](http://www.tenterfield.nsw.gov.au)



## ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING - DECEMBER

The Ordinary Meeting of Council for December will be held on **Wednesday, 18 December 2024** in the Koreelah Room, Tenterfield Shire Council Chambers, 247 Rouse Street, Tenterfield, commencing at 9.30.

Business Papers will be available on Council's website [www.tenterfield.nsw.gov.au](http://www.tenterfield.nsw.gov.au) on Thursday, 12 December 2024 from 5.00pm.

Community members wishing to speak on any of the Agenda items should contact Council at [council@tenterfield.nsw.gov.au](mailto:council@tenterfield.nsw.gov.au) before 5.00pm on Monday, 9 December and provide the request to speak in writing via the "Application to Speak at Ordinary Council Meetings:" on Council's website at [www.tenterfield.nsw.gov.au/your-council/forms](http://www.tenterfield.nsw.gov.au/your-council/forms) setting out the details of the matter to be raised.

## CALLING ALL TRADIES

Council is currently updating the existing list of local builders, trades and contractors that service the Tenterfield Shire Council area and is seeking expressions of interest to be added to the list.



This is not an endorsement by Council, however provides a valuable resource for existing and new residents when looking for local services.

If you would like to be added to the list, or make any alterations to an existing listing, please provide Council via email with the type of service you provide, including licence number (if applicable) and contact details.

Email [council@tenterfield.nsw.gov.au](mailto:council@tenterfield.nsw.gov.au) using the reference 'trades list'.

The current list can be found on Council's website [www.tenterfield.nsw.gov.au](http://www.tenterfield.nsw.gov.au)

## CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR CLOSURES

### Administrative Office and Library

- Closed from 3pm Friday, 20 December 2024, re-open Monday, 6 January 2025

### Council Works Depot

- Closed from 3pm Friday, 20 December 2024, re-open Monday, 6 January 2025

### Waste Collection

- There will be no waste collections on Christmas Day, Wednesday 25 December 2025

### Waste Transfer Stations

- Tenterfield Waste Transfer Station will be closed on Wednesday Christmas Day 25 December
- All other Waste Transfer Stations open as usual

### Vehicle Registration Checks

- Council advise that due to available resources, there will be no bookings taken for vehicle registration checks in December 2024 or January 2025.

### Tenterfield Memorial Pool

- Christmas Eve - Tuesday, 24 December - 10am - 4pm
- Christmas Day - CLOSED
- Boxing Day - CLOSED
- Friday, 27 December - 10am - 6pm
- Monday, 30 December - 10am - 6pm
- Tuesday, 31 December - 10am - 4pm
- New Years Day Wednesday, 1 January 2025 - 12pm - 4pm

All times are NSW Daylight Saving Time

## EMERGENCY TELEPHONE NUMBERS

|   |                |
|---|----------------|
| Waste Disposal Services                 | 0422 138 318   |
| Water & Sewerage Services (Tenterfield) | 0411 770 743   |
| Water & Sewerage Services (Urbenville)  | 0427 799 051   |
| Parks & Gardens/Animal Control          | 0411 864 042   |
| Roads & Streets                         | 0402 210 101   |
| NSW Rural Fire Service                  | (02) 6739 6900 |



[WWW.TENTERFIELD.NSW.GOV.AU](http://WWW.TENTERFIELD.NSW.GOV.AU)

CONTACT US: 02 6736 6000