



NEWS FROM THE MAYOR



Hi Everyone,

My wife and I enjoyed an interesting start to the month when we joined the Leeton Family and Local History Society on a Cemetery Walk led by Cr Tony Reneker and Wendy Senti. It was inspiring to hear the rich history of Leeton's pioneers and leaders who have helped create the great Shire we live in today. I hope the Society offers this enlightening opportunity again.

It was a coup to have both the Hon Paul Toole, NSW Minister for Regional Roads and Transport, and Sussan Ley our newly re-elected Federal Member for Farrer officiate at the launch of the WRConnect master plan. WRConnect is the new name for the freight intermodal at Wumbulgal. This visionary project will assist businesses in Leeton and the Western Riverina to get their products to market faster and at less cost. Our next challenge is to get the Plan implemented.

Economic development staff and I travelled to Sydney to showcase our Shire as an attractive place to live and work. Being well known as a caring and welcoming community, Leeton Shire was one of three Councils specifically invited to exhibit our region and job opportunities at the 'Take the LEAP Employment Expo'. The day was a huge success.

I had the pleasure of opening the National Apex 40th Annual Convention during which 120 plus members experienced the best of the food bowl of Australia while rekindling old friendships and making new ones. Attendees came from across the country and visited many of our local attractions. I heard lots of compliments about our town and a good number of Apex members stayed up to two weeks before or after the convention providing a welcome boost to our local economy. My congratulations to the organisers.

Staff and I met with Member for Farrer, Sussan Ley, who announced funding of \$496,000 towards the Leeton Showground Grandstand rebuild. This extra funding is appreciated and along with funds from NSW Government and AFL will deliver the full \$1.8M project.

Water policy remains a high priority for the Shire. The General Manager and I accepted an invitation to meet with the new State Government Water Minister, Melinda Pavey, and Deputy Premier, John Barilaro in Griffith last week. The Member for Murray, Helen Dalton, attended too. The Ministers listened intently and committed to working proactively with communities to help address our water policy concerns.

A Health Forum facilitated by the Primary Health Network (PHN) was held last Thursday and I took the opportunity to outline our health and hospital concerns to their national CEO. Council will actively follow up with the PHN with a view to ensuring Visiting Medical Officer (VMO) services at our hospital are improved.

Take care and best wishes until my June update.

Kind Regards, Mayor Cr Paul Maytom

DRAFT 2019/2020 ANNUAL OPERATIONAL PLAN AND FEES AND CHARGES

Leeton Shire Council now has on public exhibition for your consideration the draft Annual Operational Plan, draft Budget, draft Revenue Policy and draft Fees and Charges for 2019/2020. This is year 3 of Council's 4-year Delivery Program (2017-2021).

View the full 2017-2021 Delivery Program, draft 2019/2020 Operational Plan and draft 2019/2020 Fees and Charges on Council's website <http://www.leeton.nsw.gov.au> or visit our Have Your Say Leeton website <http://haveyoursay.leeton.nsw.gov.au/>.

Hard copies are available at the Council Administration Office, Library, Yanco Shop, Murrami and Whitton Post Offices.

Documents will be on public exhibition for 28 days from 2 May 2019 and a further 14 days is allowed for written public submissions.

Residents are asked to please have their written feedback in to Council by 5pm on 3 June 2019 to allow staff sufficient time to consider feedback before it is presented to Council mid-June. All submitters will be invited to attend the Council hearing on the draft 2019/20 Operational Plan, Budget and Revenue Policy scheduled for 12 June 2019.

Written submissions on the Draft 2019/2020 Annual Operational Plan and Fees and Charges can be made in writing and sent via email to council@leeton.nsw.gov.au or mailed to Leeton Shire Council, 23-25 Chelmsford Place, Leeton NSW 2705.

2018/2019 RATES 4TH INSTALMENT

Leeton Shire Council advises all ratepayers that the Fourth Instalment of Rates for the 2018/2019 financial year is due Friday 31 May 2019.

Failure to pay the Fourth Instalment by the due date renders it overdue and subject to the addition of interest charges at a rate of 7.5 percent per annum, calculated daily.

Payment may be made on the Internet (www.leeton.nsw.gov.au) by credit card by clicking on the option to pay online. B-Pay is also available (Biller Code No. 303321). Payment can also be made at any Australia Post agency or Commonwealth Bank branch by presenting your intact notice. To pay by telephone with MasterCard or Visa, please call 1300 276 468 anytime.

Please note that if payments are made by post, ensure sufficient time is allowed for the payment to reach Council on or before the due date.

DOGS IN THE POUND

To view impounded dogs go to:-

<http://www.leeton.nsw.gov.au/animals-in-the-pound.aspx>