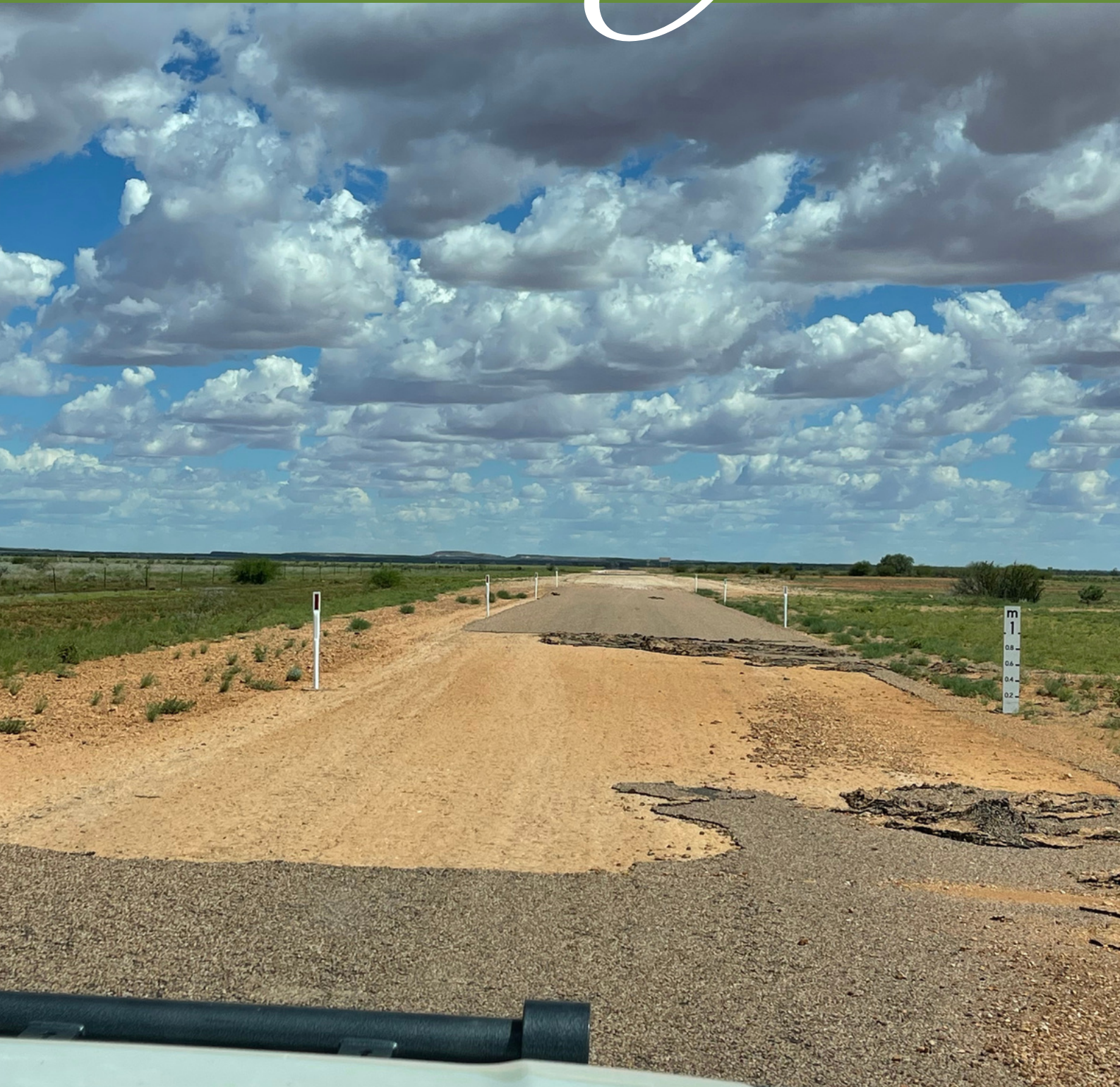
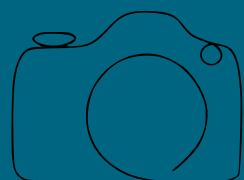


BARCOO *Banter*

COMMUNITY NEWS • JANUARY 2023



Morney flood damage - Jason Beilby



Send to us, tag us, share with us your best photo to feature in our monthly newsletter!

BARCOO Banter



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Please send all Newsletter content to:
newsletter@barcoo.qld.gov.au

Cut off date for February Newsletter
 COB 24 February 2023



Want to give back to the Jundah community?

Be a volunteer ambulance driver.
 You might just save someone's life.

For more information call the
 Director of Nursing at the
 Jundah Primary Health Centre.

> 4658 6500



Contact Council

Jundah Council Office
 Phone: (07) 4658 6900
 Email: shire@barcoo.qld.gov.au

Mayor Sally O'Neil: 0424 791 449
sally.oneil@barcoo.qld.gov.au

Cr Roger Batt: 0448 585 942
roger.batt@barcoo.qld.gov.au

Cr Andrew Miller: 0428 437 975
andrew.miller@barcoo.qld.gov.au

Cr Dianne Pidgeon: 0458 585 921
dianne.pidgeon@barcoo.qld.gov.au

Cr Tony Jackson: 0428 583 254
tony.jackson@barcoo.qld.gov.au



MAYOR'S *Message*

WITH SALLY O'NEIL

Hello Everyone

Hope all is well. I can't believe we have just got through the first month of 2023, where did the holidays go. It was a very mild Christmas period for those who stayed around over the break. This was followed by some decent falls throughout the Shire in January with more to come if the predictions are correct.

Australia Day was celebrated at various locations throughout the Shire with the main Australian Day award presentations being held in Jundah. Congratulations to the following 2023 recipients, Citizen of the Year – Doreen Pitman, Volunteer of the Year – Mary Matheson, Cultural Award – Joshua Gorringer and Community Event of the Year – Jundah Spring Fling. Thank you to the Jundah Sports committee for hosting the night which was enjoyed by residents with mixed netball, a BBQ meal and refreshments.



(L-R) Doreen Pitman, Joshua Gorringer, Mayor Sally O'Neil, Mary Matheson, CEO Mike Lollback and Maree Pitman on behalf of the Jundah Race Club

With another year upon us I thought it would be an appropriate time to share my reflections of the accomplishments of Council so far this term. Leading into the new year I like to reflect on what has been achieved and what are the plans for the year ahead. There have been some changes and good outcomes for the community and our organisation. In this edition of the Banter I will summarise these reflections and plans for 2023.

Finance - Completion of the external Audit has improved significantly over the past 3 years.

- 30 June 2020	- 30 June 2021	- 30 June 2022
- Signed 29/01/2021 (7months after year end)	- Signed 19/10/2021 (3.5 months after year end)	- Signed 18/10/2022 (3.5 months after year end)
- 38 Management Points	- 16 Management Points	- 3 Management Points

MAYOR'S *Message*

WITH SALLY O'NEIL CONTINUED

- Implementation of a structure capital project analysis and decision tool.
- Implementation of a Customer Service Charter.
- Implemented Risk Management Framework.
- Continues reduction in outstanding rates balance, working with property owners across the region.
- Barcoo was a runner up for a Risk Management award that is hosted by LGMS each year.
- Continuation of the Business Improvement program in partnership with the Queensland Treasury Corporation (QTC). This program has seen Council improve its financial position from one of at a critical risk level into one that, while still fragile, is much more stable and is more closely aligned to the financial sustainability framework.

Corporate Plan – About 18 months ago, Council adopted its new Corporate Plan (2021 – 2026) using extensive community consultation. The Plan is our principal planning document and informs the development of our annual budgets.

External Funding – With such a low rates base, Council is dependent on securing project specific funding for critical community infrastructure and services:

- Windorah Bedourie Rd at Morney pave and seal 10km \$5.5M
- Windorah Bedourie Rd at Morney pave and seal 5.3km \$2.7M
- Windorah Birdsville Rd at Shire Boundary 6.5km pave and seal and 8.5km resheet \$4M
- Cuddapan pave and seal 6.3km \$4M
- Yaraka Retreat gravel resheet 11.7km \$550k
- Arrabury Rd resheet 23.5km \$1.1M, \$300k of this was Council contribution
- Connemarra Bridge replacement \$500k
- Jundah Winton Rd floodway upgrades x 2 \$500k
- Trafalgar and Haughton Vale floodways \$720k
- McPhellamys Crossing \$1.1M, yet to be completed
- Jundah roadhouse drainage \$100k
- Entire Shire flood damage 2020-2022 \$25M
- Town streets reseals \$320k
- Windorah kerb and channel Maryborough St and Virtue St \$600k, \$300k of this was Council contribution
- Jundah SES shed \$120k
- Windorah water treatment plant \$2.4M
- Jundah water treatment plant planning \$248k January – March 2023
- Jundah water treatment plant treated water storage replacement \$330k February 2023
- Budgerygar floodway \$500k June-July 2023
- Bimerah Isisford Rd stabilisation/resheet \$5M, \$1M of this Council contribution – June - July 2023
- Windorah Airport runway upgrade \$2.8M September – December 2023
- Jundah staff housing \$1.5M July 2023
- Jundah Winton Rd at Mayne channel floodway extension \$550k August 2023



Community Engagement – As part of our community survey just under two years ago, the community provided us with a very strong message that you wanted Council to seek your input in our decision-making processes. We've listened and now have the following in place:

- Community Engagement Policy and Strategy
- Rural Lands Advisory Committee (community membership only)
- Arts and Culture Advisory Committee (community membership only)

MAYOR'S *Message*

WITH SALLY O'NEIL CONTINUED

Economic Development – As part of our community survey just under two years ago, the community provided us with a very strong message that you wanted Council to put more emphasis on the development of our economy. Here are some initiatives we have put in place:

- Council is now a member of the state Small Business Friendly Council initiative which commits us to certain standards.
- Home Grown Employment Program – enhances opportunities for locals wanting to secure employment within Council or local businesses.
- Small Business Advisory Service – advice and support for local businesses.

Jundah Roadhouse – The last year or so has seen the Roadhouse grow in sales and become more efficient. A greater range of products and the introduction of solar power to the site have been part of this change.

The following is the externally funded project status update:

- Windorah water treatment plant – in operation.
- McPhelley's crossing – Due to recent wet weather event delays to be expected.
- Mt Felix floodway – Project on hold due to weather.
- Ray Paynter culvert/floodway – pipe extension in the new year.
- Stonehenge water treatment plant new shed and filter upgrade – filter upgrade remaining

The following is an update of our work crews and their progress on roads around the Shire. Darren Matheson's crew have returned to work from break and completed flood damage on Carella Rd and Stonehenge River Rd, from here they will move onto Lochiel Rd. Jason Beilby's crew have returned from break and are continuing Windorah Bedourie Rd at Morney.

The maintenance grader is currently doing emergency work for flood damage of various roads throughout the Shire. If there are sections of roads requiring immediate attention, please notify Council.

Contractor crew have completed flood damage on South Galway Rd and will move onto shoulder maintenance on the Bedourie Rd.

Don't forget, Council meetings are open to the public and all community members are welcome. Council meetings are rotated around the three towns, and we notify via an online flyer of upcoming Council meeting dates and times. The next meeting will be held in Jundah on the 15th of February 2023.

Please don't hesitate to contact me on the details below if you have any queries or concerns.

Regards Sally
Mayor Barcoo Shire Council
Sally.oneil@barcoo.qld.gov.au
0424 791 449



COUNCIL NEWS

JANUARY COUNCIL MEETING WRAP UP

All Barcoo Shire Council minutes can be downloaded for public viewing on our Publishing Portal at the following link

<https://myportal.barcoo.qld.gov.au/public/publications>

PROJECT AREA REPORTS

- Council adopted the Transport Asset Management Plan in accordance with Section 167 of the Local Government Regulation 2012.

The Barcoo Shire Council holds its next Ordinary Meeting on Wednesday 15 February 2023 at the Jundah Council Chambers, commencing at 8:00am. Council meetings are open to the public. Councillors and the Chief Executive Officer would like to extend an invitation to members of the community to join them for morning tea, commencing at 10:30am. This is an excellent opportunity to meet with Councillors and senior Council staff to discuss ideas or matters of concern you may have. Council encourages community engagement and interest, and we hope to see members of the community at our Council meetings or joining us for morning tea.



BARCOO SHIRE VIC'S AND LIBRARIES HAVE YOUR SAY

Council is currently reviewing the operating hours of the Jundah, Stonehenge and Windorah Visitor Information Centres and Libraries. Council would appreciate your input into the proposed changes by no later than 2pm, 6 February 2023. To Have Your Say please click the following link

www.barcoo.qld.gov.au/about-council/have-you-say-consult/73-have-your-say/516-barcoo-shire-visitor-information-centres

RATES

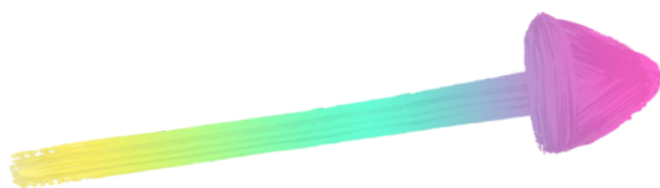
Barcoo Shire rates will be issued on the 14th of February 2023, please look out for these in your mail and email, if you don't receive your rates, please contact us. Date due will be the 16th of March 2023, after this date, the discount will not be able to be offered.

To assist making payments Council offers several options including:

- Cash, card or cheque at Council main office in Jundah or Windorah and Stonehenge Information Centres,
- By post via cheque or money order,
- BPAY - Biller code 293209 Reference is included on your rates notice,
- Credit card over the phone, please call 4658 6900.

Council offers payment plans Weekly, Fortnightly, Monthly if you wish to pay this off.

Please contact Council if you have any questions or wish to discuss this further with us on (07) 4658 6910 or via email accounts.receivable@barcoo.qld.gov.au



RATES COMING SOON

COMMUNITY NOTICES



Want to give back to the Jundah community?

Be a volunteer ambulance driver.
You might just save someone's life.

For more information call the
Director of Nursing at the
Jundah Primary Health Centre. > 4658 6500





February 2023

VISITING SPECIALISTS*

Flying Obstetrician & Gynaecologist

- 7 February – Barcardine
Dr Kirsten Millard
- 14 February – Longreach
Dr Adam Bush
- 21 February – Longreach
Dr Sarah Janssens

Flying Surgeon*Including Endoscopy Services*

- 7 February – Longreach
Dr Paul Liebenberg
- 14 February – Longreach
Dr Ming Ho
- 21 February – Longreach
Dr Robert Kalmár

Gastroenterologist*Dr Mark Norrie**Private service - fees & charges apply*

- 16 February – Longreach
- 17 February – Longreach

Rheumatologist*Dr Claire Barrett*

- 27 February – Longreach
- 28 February – Longreach

Respiratory Physician*Dr Alistair Cook*

- 17 February – Telehealth PM
- 23 February – Longreach PM
- 24 February – Longreach AM

***Please speak to your GP about a referral.**

Outback Child and Family



Charleville RAFS Playgroup

Charleville RAFS invites you to come and play at our "PLAYGROUP"

All families with young children aged between 0-5 years are welcome to attend.
RAFS PLAYGROUPS ARE FOR EVERYONE. If you know of a new family in the district please invite them. We would love to meet them.

Due to the COVID-19 regulations families are required to bring their own food and refrain from sharing, as per the factsheet provided. Please remember to bring a change of old clothes for hands on sensory play.

****Please be aware when bringing food, that there may be children attending the playgroup with allergies and/or intolerances. It is important that food is kept separate to the resources to reduce the risk of causing allergic reactions.****

REMINDER: Parents/carers need to be in the vicinity of the playgroup at all times.

Educators are unable to take sole care of the children whilst hosting the playgroup.

**Windorah Playgroup****Event Details**

Date: Thursday 2nd February 2023

Time: 9am - 12pm

Venue: Windorah State School

Contact Us

Taylor Maher, Early Years Educator
Libby Usher, Early Years Educator
P: (07) 4654 3890
M: 0439 922 815 (Taylor)
m: 0460 935 898 (Libby)
E: charleville.rafs@ucccommunity.org.au

COMMUNITY NOTICES



ALLIED HEALTH SERVICES WINDORAH & JUNDIAH - FEBRUARY

FREE to people of all ages these services aim to improve your health and wellbeing!

Visiting health professionals include:

- > **PODIATRIST**
- > **DIETITIAN**
- > **EXERCISE PHYSIOLOGIST**
- > **PHYSIOTHERAPY**
- > **OCCUPATIONAL THERAPIST**

Our February visit dates are as follows:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
		1	2	3
6	7	8	9	10
13	14	15	16	17
	WINDORAH Exercise Physiologist Podiatrist Dietitian Physiotherapist	WINDORAH Exercise Physiologist Podiatrist Dietitian Physiotherapist	JUNDIAH Exercise Physiologist Podiatrist Dietitian Physiotherapist	
20	21	22	23	24
27	28			

Referrals are accepted from all parties, including self-referral.

NWRH ARE ALSO SERVICE PROVIDERS FOR THE NDIS AND COMMONWEALTH HOME SUPPORT PROGRAM.

FOR INFORMATION ON REFERRAL PATHWAYS AND OUR HEALTH SERVICES REFER TO OUR WEBSITE OR ASK ONE OF OUR FRIENDLY TEAM

PHONE: 07 4652 7100 OR FREECALL: 1800 221 131

www.nwrh.com.au



WINDORAH P&C YELLOWBELLY HUNT FISHING COMP

SATURDAY & SUNDAY

APRIL 29th and 30th 2023

@ Cooper's Creek, Windorah

For more information:

0477 182 905 or email rbamp3eeq.edu.au

www.facebook.com/windorahyellowbellyhunt

**SAVE
THE DATE**

DIABETES EDUCATION

WEDNESDAY 8 FEBRUARY

Windorah Primary Health Centre

Referral required - please speak to your GP about your need for a referral.

Please call 4652 5500 to make an appointment.



DIABETES EDUCATION

TUESDAY 7 FEBRUARY

Jundiah Primary Health Centre

Referral required - please speak to your GP about your need for a referral.

Please call 4652 5500 to make an appointment.



COMMUNITY NOTICES

Tuesday 14th February 2023 - 10.30am

Jundah Rural Fire Brigade Station

New 5,000 litre firefighting skid

On display for feedback and design improvement.

RFSQ A/Chief Officer Joanne Greenfield wants to know what you want Rural Fire to look like into the future.

Brigade members, Local Government elected members and staff are invited to attend.

RSVP to Jundah RFB 1st Officer Glen Arrol – 0409 353 195



**RURAL FIRE BRIGADES ASSOCIATION
QUEENSLAND INC.**



CRFSQ A/Chief Officer Joanne Greenfield wants to know what you want Rural Fire to look like into the future and new the 5,000 litre firefighting skid will be on display for feedback and design improvement. This is a great opportunity for both truck and non-truck brigades and local government to have their voices heard at the beginning of the process of building a new Rural Fire Service that will support brigades in defending Queensland communities.

Jundah – Tuesday 14th February – 10.30am – Jundah Rural Fire Brigade Station New Equipment - 5,000 litre firefighting skid tour

The Rural Fire Service has 3,700 x 500L slip-ons in service and about 400 x 1,000L trailers. These are great so long as you have people who can put them on their personal vehicles as it gives an immediate knockdown ability at fires and maintains control of the fires in the hands of the locals who understand how fire moves through their country. This is why 60% of Rural Fire Brigades in Queensland don't have a truck and most don't want one.

Brigade membership as a percentage of population is still constant however with depopulation in the central west and far west there are fewer people. If we keep supplying the same small units we will have fewer actually on the fire front. When they need to go refill, the fire gets a run. The proposed system and associated equipment that allows the local brigades to stay on the fire front longer is the supply of 5,000L skid units. These would be being user tested in February 2023 in the central west.

Units would be located at select rural fire stations and / or council depots, and at the commencement of fire season local brigade members who participate will bring in a flatbed truck and have the 5,000L skid loaded onto their truck. This will then be a resource to either fill up the local slip-on units or to knock down the flanks of a fire. This would not result in a reduction in slip-ons or trailers, rather be an additional resource.

At the end of fire season the brigade member will then bring the 5,000L skid in, and the RFSQ will have the equipment serviced and safely stored under cover against the next time of identified need. At the LGAQ Annual Conference in Cairns the RFBAQ spoke to a number of Mayors and Councillors regarding the concept and they were very keen to get involved. Nu Tank in Rockhampton have been very involved in the build and in seeing a central Queensland manufacturer building firefighting equipment for central Queensland users. This is a 100% RFBAQ driven and funded initiative from art union ticket sales and donations.

GARDENING WITH FISHERS NURSERY

AUSTRALIA DAY PLANTS

All Australians should do their very best, on one day a year to replant an Australian native plant. But finding true Australian native plants is becoming very difficult these days. While nurseries and the hardware chains may stock 100s of Australian native hybrids but there is a great weekend adventure to find some true Australian native plants. To help with that Australia Day plant selection here are some highly recommended Australian native plants:

Acacia podalyriifolia or Mount Morgan Silver Wattle is a delightful, fast growing small tree growing to 3-4m x 2-3m. With rounded silvery/grey foliage and clusters gold ball-type flowers massed over the plant in winter. In a home garden situation, this plant prefers a sunny well-drained position and a westerly aspect.

Brachychiton bidwillii is a Miniature Kurrajong that grows very well in local gardens and can reach a height of around 3m. During spring bunches of large bell-shaped pink flowers, clustered around the branches, will make this plant a feature in most gardens.

Callistemon chisholmii or Budgeroo is regarded as one of the most drought tolerant Bottlebrushes. This hardy shrub forms an slender sparse habit will grow between 2-4m. 8cm long golden tipped red flowers appear from May to October. It has leathery, dark green lance-shaped leaves make this plant resilient to frost and wind. *Callistemon chisholmii* can be found growing naturally creek banks in the sandstone country in Central and North Western Queensland.

Cassia artemisioides or Silver Cassia is a small, rounded shrub 2m x 1.5m with fine silvery blue/grey foliage. Bright yellow cup-shaped flowers will cover this plant during Winter and Spring. It requires a sunny, well-drained position and is a very attractive shrub.

Eremophila maculata Aurea or Yellow Spotted Emu Bush is a dense shrub with dark green foliage and yellow fuchsia like flowers. The Yellow Spotted Emu Bush is probably one of the hardiest shrubs for well-drained gardens that you can possibly buy. Whether you are gardening on Great Keppel Island or on a property west of Longreach, this is one shrub that you will grow successfully.



Grevillea pteridifolia or Fern Leaf Grevillea is a large shrub to small tree that also has attractive greyish-green foliage. The flowers contain a lot of nectar that is an important food source for a number of species of birds and animals. What many gardeners may not realise is that this plant is also the parent of a number of popular *Grevillea* hybrids. Hybrids like *Grevillea Honey Gem* and *Sandra Gordon*.

Hakea purpurea is a dense shrub growing to 2m high, and up to 2m wide. With its needle-shaped leaves, even when without flower, it can be a very ornamental feature of the garden. Once this shrub starts flowering, usually from late June to October, it would one of the most spectacular native shrubs growing in a winter garden. Each individual spider-type flower is approximately 2.5cm long, generally in clusters of several hundred at a time, almost engulfing the plant in flower.

Melaleuca laterita or Robyn Red-Breast is a small upright shrub 1.5m x 1m with bright green foliage. The flowers are as the common name states bright orange in colour, but there are variations in colour shades. The Bottlebrush like flowers are up to 8cm long and can appear throughout the year. For maximum growth a sunny well-drained spot is required.

All of these Australian native plants would well make a spectacular garden, so check with your local nurseries and the hardware chains so source your dinky-di, ridgy didge, Aussie Aussie Aussie, fair dinkum Australia Day plant.

PLANT NOW FOR FEBRUARY

Annuals - Marigolds, Salvia, Petunia, Alyssum, Candytuft, Cineraria, Clarkia, Cornflower, Delphinium, Dianthus, Gypsophila, Larkspur, Linaria, Lobelia, Pansy, Phlox, Poppy, Primula, Snapdragon, Statice, Stock, Sweet Pea, Verbena and Viola.

Vegetables and Herbs - Beans, Beetroot, Broccoli, Cabbage, Cauliflower, Carrot, Celery, Lettuce, Mint, Mustard, Parsley, Radish, Squash, Silverbeet, Tomato and Zucchini and all herbs.

By Neil Fisher

TELSTRA TECH TIP



Go even further with Telstra Mobile Satellite

If you live, work or are travelling through in one of Australia's remote areas, a mobile phone isn't a luxury, it's a lifeline. With Telstra Mobile Satellite and a clear wide view of the sky you can stay connected when you really need.

Telstra delivers mobile voice, SMS and data services over the Iridium satellite network, giving you access in some of Australia's most remote areas. Telstra has the latest Iridium handsets, which look and work just like regular mobile phones, as well as a wide range of access plans and accessories designed to maximise the functionality of your satellite phone for use in your vehicle, boat or on foot.

Check your coverage to find out if a Telstra Mobile Satellite solution is right for you follow the provided link <https://www.telstra.com.au/coverage-networks/mobile-satellite>

JUNDAH SCHOOL NEWS

Welcome to Jundah State School in 2023

I hope everyone had a relaxing holiday and are ready for a productive year. Our wonderful team of educators at Jundah State School are excited to welcome 15 students into our supportive learning environment. Through kindness, hard work and respect we will learn each day by our motto, 'To strive is to achieve'.

We have so many amazing opportunities to look forward too including our swimming camp in Jundah in term 1, Windorah Sports camp in terms 2, Canberra Snow Camp in term 3 and Bedourie Splash and Arts in term 4. Let's have a great year and I look forward to working with Stonehenge, Windorah and building on positive engagement within our community.

