

# DESERT YARNS

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Phone: 07 4564 2000

October/November 2022



Photograph: Sam Watkins



Photograph: Sam Watkins



Beautiful Diamantina skies as the weather warms up, welcoming the commencement of the Summer storm season.

Photograph: Paula Brown



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The Diamantina  
Birdsville Bedourie Betoota  
Where the Desert meets the Channel Country

# MAYORS REPORT

## ROBBIE DARE

Dear Diamantinians,

I hope this newsletter finds everybody well. Diamantina Shire had the council by-elections on 5th November to fill the two vacant seats, and congratulations to Sharon Pursell and Kerry Morton the successful nominees. Sharon and Kerry were sworn in at their first council meeting on the 21st November.



During that meeting council endorsed the employment of replacement Chief Executive Officer, Andrew Boardman formerly of Balonne Shire Council. Andrew will begin with Diamantina Shire on 23rd January 2023. Andrew is married with 3 children and like councillors, is keen for our new team to start together in the new year.

I have been attending RAPAD meetings in Brisbane, from the beginning on the 22nd November until 24th November. It has been a fruitful meeting involving the Outback Regional Roads Group which was attended by Director General of Department of Transport, Neil Scales. Neil is a great supporter of our Outback Regional Roads Group and we are pushing to have bitumen overtaking lanes on the Birdsville - Windorah road every 25 kilometres.

The Queensland Government supported Regional Community Forums, attended the RAPAD meeting on Wednesday and it gave me an opportunity to seek support for childcare and early childhood services in Birdsville and Bedourie to assist our communities. It's not only our communities, all the other towns in our Region of Councils also need help.

Council will have it's last council meeting on 14th December, which is break up day for staff. Stay healthy and safe.

Regards  
Robbie Dare



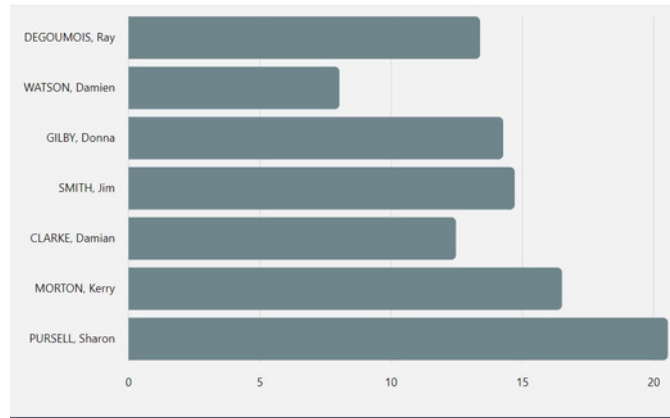
Cr Sharon Pursell and Cr Kerry Morton were sworn in at their first council meeting on the 21st November, 2022.

# EXECUTIVE REPORT

## TIM ROSE - INTERIM CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

### By-Election Results

The by-election has now been completed after waiting the full ten days for the count to be completed. The result being that both Sharon Pursell and Kerry Morton were successfully declared as councillors. Congratulations to both. The next local government election is scheduled to be held in March 2024.



Count above is as a percentage of votes. Full results are on the Electoral Commission of Queensland Website.

### Council meeting dates

The council meeting dates for next year are scheduled as below. The final meeting for 2022 will be on the 14th of December 2022

23 January 2023	Bedourie Administration Centre
20 February 2023	Bedourie Administration Centre
20 March 2023	Birdsville Wirrarri Centre
17 April 2023	Bedourie Administration Centre
15 May 2023	Bedourie Administration Centre
19 June 2023	Bedourie Administration Centre
17 July 2023	Bedourie Administration Centre
21 August 2023	Bedourie Administration Centre
18 September 2023	Bedourie Administration Centre
9 October 2023	Bedourie Administration Centre
20 November 2023	Birdsville Wirrarri Centre
13 December 2023	Bedourie Administration Centre

### Annual Report

The Annual report was adopted by council at the November meeting. The report is on the finances and the achievements of Council during the 2021/2022 financial year. If anyone would like a copy of the report, please don't hesitate to contact council however it will be on our website for anybody who wishes to view it.

### Annual Wage Increase

The Local Government Association of Qld supported a CPI wage increase to applicable Award wages for 22/23. Council implemented the wage increase of 4.6% to all staff on Award wages. This increase assists Council staff with the cost of living in our remote region.



# DIAMANTINA SHIRE COUNCIL STAFF PROFILE



Syed Qadir

Position: Project Manager - Bedourie

## Family:

My wife Rahila and two sons Shahid and Tayyab (ages 5 and 3) live with me in Bedourie. My elder son goes to the Bedourie State School.

## Professional background? Where have you come from to join DSC?

I have an Engineering background with a Master's degree in Engineering Management from Griffith University. I worked as a Project Manager in the Western Downs Regional Council before coming out to Diamantina.

## What do you love most about Diamantina Shire?

The relaxed environment in the Shire is amazing, and with no distractions/traffic, shops etc. I can spend a lot of quality time with my family and continue my professional development. People in the shire are very genuine, supportive and kind. The harmony, safety and peace in the community makes it a very special place to live and helps a lot to combat the remoteness of the place.

## Interest/Hobbies. Favourite day off activity?

I love to read books and reading keeps me very busy in my off time. I enjoy going to the very well-equipped Bedourie gym, watching cricket and engaging in various activities with my kids.

## Most challenging aspect of residing in the Diamantina Shire?

Managing the road closures and keeping an eye on all the road reports of surrounding councils.

## Looking forward to in the next 12 months?

A few exciting projects are coming up in the next 12 months in the Shire which will keep me busy and hopefully will attract more funding to deliver more projects. I would like to complete my MBA in the next 12 months to further strengthen my management skills.



# DIAMANTINA SHIRE COUNCIL

## DECEMBER 2022/JANUARY 2023 CLOSURE DATES

Council has approved the annual closure dates as noted below:

Department	Branch	Section	Close Down Commences	Recommencement Date
Executive		All	23 December 2022 3.00pm	3 January 2022
Corporate	Finance and Administration	All office staff	23 December 2022 3.00pm	3 January 2022
Community Sustainability	Tourism	Visitor Centres	23 December 2022 3.00pm	9 January 2022
Community Sustainability	Community Development	Children's Services Facilitators	16 December 2022 5.00pm	9 January 2022
Community Sustainability	Accommodation Services	Birdsville Tourist Park	23 December 2022 5.00pm	3 January 2022
Infrastructure	Management	All office staff	23 December 2022 3.00pm	3 January 2022
Infrastructure	Asset Services	Facilities Maintenance	23 December 2022 3.00pm	9 January 2022
Infrastructure	Asset Services	Workshop	23 December 2022 3.00pm	3 January 2022
Infrastructure	Asset Services	Bedourie & Birdsville Town Services except skeleton staff	23 December 2022 3.00pm	9 January 2022
Infrastructure	Works	Civil Crew	14 December 2022 3.00pm	30 January 2022
Infrastructure	Works	Road Construction and Maintenance Crews	14 December 2022 3.00pm	30 January 2022

# DIAMANTINA SHIRE COUNCIL

## 2023 WORKS ROSTER

Council has approved the 2023 Works Roster below::

WORKS ROSTER (January 2023 - June 2023)																	
THIS WORKS ROSTER APPLIES IN THE ROAD CONSTRUCTION, MAINTENANCE AND MULTI SKILLED TEAMS WITHIN THE INFRASTRUCTURE DEPARTMENT																	
January 2023			February 2023			March 2023			April 2023			May 2023			June 2023		
Day	Date	Day Type	Day	Date	Day Type	Day	Date	Day Type	Day	Date	Day Type	Day	Date	Day Type	Day	Date	Day Type
			W	1		W	1								T	1	OFF
			T	2		T	2								F	2	OFF
			F	3		F	3								S	3	OFF
S	1	OFF	S	4		S	4		S	1					S	4	OFF
M	2	New Years Day	M	5		M	5		M	2					M	5	
T	3	OFF	T	6		T	6		T	3		M	1		T	6	
W	4	OFF	W	7		W	7		W	4		T	2		W	7	
T	5	OFF	T	8		T	8		T	5		W	3	Labour Day	T	8	
F	6	OFF	F	9	OFF	F	9	OFF	F	6	OFF	T	4	OFF	F	9	
S	7	OFF	S	10	OFF	S	10	OFF	S	7	Good Friday	F	5	OFF	S	10	
S	8	OFF	S	11	OFF	S	11	OFF	S	8	Day following Good Friday	S	6	OFF	S	11	
M	9	OFF	M	12	OFF	M	12	OFF	M	9	Easter Sunday	S	7	OFF	M	12	
T	10	OFF	T	13		T	13		T	10	Easter Monday	M	8		T	13	
W	11	OFF	W	14		W	14		W	11	OFF	T	9		W	14	OFF
T	12	OFF	T	15		T	15		T	12		W	10		T	15	OFF
F	13	OFF	F	16		F	16		F	13		F	11		F	16	OFF
S	14	OFF	S	17		S	17		S	14		S	12		S	17	OFF
S	15	OFF	S	18		S	18		S	15		S	13		S	18	OFF
M	16	OFF	M	19		M	19		M	16		M	14		M	19	
T	17	OFF	T	20		T	20		T	17		T	15		T	20	
W	18	OFF	W	21	OFF	W	21	OFF	W	18		W	16		W	21	
T	19	OFF	T	22	OFF	T	22	OFF	T	19	OFF	T	17	OFF	T	22	
F	20	OFF	F	23	OFF	F	23	OFF	F	20	OFF	F	18	OFF	F	23	
S	21	OFF	S	24	OFF	S	24	OFF	S	21	OFF	S	19	OFF	S	24	
S	22	OFF	S	25	OFF	S	25	OFF	S	22	OFF	S	20	OFF	S	25	
M	23	OFF	M	26	OFF	M	26	OFF	M	23	OFF	S	21	OFF	M	26	
T	24	OFF	T	27		T	27		T	24	Day	M	22		T	27	
W	25	Australia Day				W	28		W	25	ANZAC Day	T	23		W	28	
T	26	OFF				T	29		T	26		W	24		T	29	OFF
F	27	OFF				F	30		F	27		T	25		F	30	OFF
S	28	OFF							S	28		S	26				
S	29	OFF							S	29		S	27				
M	30								S	30		M	28				
T	31											T	29				
												W	30				
													31				

WORKS ROSTER (July 2023 - January 2024)																	
THIS WORKS ROSTER APPLIES IN THE ROAD CONSTRUCTION, MAINTENANCE AND MULTI SKILLED TEAMS WITHIN THE INFRASTRUCTURE DEPARTMENT																	
July 2023			August 2023			September 2023			October 2023			November 2023			December 2023		
Day	Date	Day Type	Day	Date	Day Type	Day	Date	Day Type	Day	Date	Day Type	Day	Date	Day Type	Day	Date	Day Type
												W	1				
												T	2	OFF			
												F	3	OFF			
S	1	OFF				S	1		S	1		S	4	OFF	S	2	OFF
S	2	OFF				S	2		S	2		S	5	OFF	S	3	OFF
M	3					M	3		M	3		M	6	OFF	M	4	
T	4		T	1		T	4		T	4	King's Birthday	T	7	Mebourne Cup	T	5	
W	5		W	2		W	5	OFF	W	5		W	8	OFF	W	6	
T	6		T	3		T	6	OFF	T	6		T	9		T	7	
F	7		F	4		F	7	OFF	F	7		F	10		F	8	
S	8	OFF	S	5		S	8	OFF	S	8		S	11		S	9	
S	9	OFF	S	6		S	9	OFF	S	9		S	12		S	10	
M	10		M	7		M	10	OFF	M	10		M	13		M	11	
T	11		T	8		T	11	OFF	T	11		T	14		T	12	
W	12		W	9	OFF	W	12		W	12		W	15		W	13	
T	13		T	10	OFF	T	13		T	13		T	16		T	14	OFF
F	14	OFF	F	11	OFF	F	14		F	14		F	17	OFF	F	15	OFF
S	15	OFF	S	12	OFF	S	15		S	15		S	18	OFF	S	16	OFF
S	16	OFF	S	13	OFF	S	16		S	16		S	19	OFF	S	17	OFF
M	17		M	14		M	17		M	17		M	20		M	18	OFF
T	18		T	15		T	18		T	18		T	21		T	19	OFF
W	19		W	16		W	19		W	19		W	22		W	20	OFF
T	20		T	17		T	20	OFF	T	20		T	23		T	21	OFF
F	21		F	18		F	21	OFF	F	21		F	24		F	22	OFF
S	22		S	19		S	22	OFF	S	22		S	25		S	23	OFF
S	23		S	20		S	23	OFF	S	23		S	26		S	24	OFF
M	24		M	21		M	24		M	24		M	27		M	25	OFF
T	25		T	22		T	25		T	25		T	28		T	26	OFF
W	26		W	23		W	26		W	26		W	29		W	27	OFF
T	27	OFF	T	24	OFF	T	27		T	27		T	30	OFF	T	28	OFF
F	28	OFF	F	25	OFF	F	28		F	28		F	29	OFF	F	29	OFF
S	29	OFF	S	26	OFF	S	29		S	29		S	30	OFF	S	30	OFF
S	30	OFF	S	27	OFF	S	30		S	30		S	31	OFF	S	31	OFF
M	31		M	28					M	31					M	29	
			T	29					T						T	30	
			W	30											W	31	
			T	31													

# COMMUNITY SUSTAINABILITY REPORT

*NADINE LORENZ - TOURISM COORDINATOR*

The last few months have slowed down quite a bit, we are still seeing travelers visiting both towns which is great to see, as the weather has been amazing....not the normal hot and dust weather that we are used to this time of the year. Preparations are under way at the Wirrarri Centre getting ready for the Kirrenderri (Mithika) Exhibition in April 2023. Plinths have arrived but we still have a lot of work ahead. Michelle Murray has been working closely with Mandana Mapar from the Queensland University.

Installation of the Exhibition will be 5th April to 14th April 2023. In this time the gallery will be closed so that installation is unhindered. It will be open to the public 15th April to 16th July 2023 (15 weeks), and there will be an official launch of the exhibition but the date has yet to be confirmed. The demount of the exhibition will be 17th to 21st July 2023 again in this time the gallery will be closed to the public.

Bookings for the Big Red Bash opened on the 27th October. All powered sites sold out in 45 minutes. We still have limited numbers of unpowered sites available for the Big Red Bash.

Birdsville Social Club put on an amazing Melbourne Cup Day. It was great to see this event well attended by locals and visitors alike. Not everyone could be a winner on the day but all in all it was a great day.

Australia Day nominations have been sent out to community and you can also call in to the Bedourie Information Centre or the Wirrarri Information Centre and collect a nomination form, or you can email [admin@diamantina.qld.gov.au](mailto:admin@diamantina.qld.gov.au) and request 1 to be emailed to you. Completed forms can also be emailed to [admin@diamantina.qld.gov.au](mailto:admin@diamantina.qld.gov.au) or by handing them in to the Shire Office or Visitor Information Centers.

**Award Categories & Eligibility is as follows:**

**Completed forms must be returned to Council by 5:00 pm 13th December**

**Citizen of the Year Award:** A person must be 26 years of age or older on the 26 January 2023 and have made a noteworthy contribution during the current year and/or given outstanding service to the local community over a number of years .

**Youth Citizen of the Year Award:** A person must be under 26 years of age as 26 January 2023 of the year and have made a noteworthy contribution during the current year and/or given outstanding service to the local community over a number of years.

**Senior Sports Person/Sports Administrator Award:** Persons over the age of 18 as at 26 January of the award year, who have noteworthy record of achievement in sport or who made a significant contribution to sport as a coach, official or administrator.

**Junior Sports Award:** A person under 18 as at 26 January of the award year and have a noteworthy record of achievement in sport.

**Community Event of the Year:** An event held in the council area which has made a noteworthy contribution to the cultural life of the local community or in an outstanding achievement in cultural activity/ies. The event is to have occurred in the period since the most recent Australia Day Awards (i.e. 2 years).



# COMMUNITY SUSTAINABILITY REPORT

*NADINE LORENZ - TOURISM COORDINATOR*

## Word Search - Diamantina Shire Stations

K J X O W O D R L T G I M I D K  
M Y K W G I V L A U C G C P A S  
I F X X O E L K K R O D H U M I  
C G X R I V U N P G O Z E N K L  
M G C R R B T H T N R L X Z M Y  
L D R H A K A M A R A N V G S O  
E U Y H A I R D A V B P S M L Z  
D S T I I H Q T G M U W L F R D  
V E U D V W P N O W L W Y H T R  
E G G X Y P I N W W K Y K V D A  
P X R N Y R K V J N A F C D M N  
L P U E P I N R P T H A B X O O  
Q L P S R B G L E N G Y L E S E  
C M Y A S A N D R I N G H A M L  
I R T C L P W D A V E N P O R T  
C B C B N G H T R E B E S O R M

ADRIA  
CLUNY  
COORABULKA  
DAVENPORT  
DURRIE  
ETHABUKA  
GLENGYLE  
KAMARAN  
MONKIRA  
MTLEONARD  
ROSEBERTH  
SANDRINGHAM  
SPRINGVALE



## Visitor Information Centre Summer Opening Hours

From 1 November 2022, the Birdsville Wirrarri Visitor Information Centre and the Bedourie Outback Visitor Information Centre will commence Summer opening hours:

Monday - Friday: 8:30 am - 12:30 pm and 1:30 pm - 4:30 pm      Saturday and Sunday: Closed

For road reports and enquiries, please visit our website: <https://www.diamantina.qld.gov.au/>

For any urgent matters, please contact Nadine Lorenz Phone: 0477 680 700.

# DIAMANTINA SHIRE COUNCIL STAFF PROFILE



**Danisha Brown**

**Position: Children Services Facilitator  
Bedourie**

**Family:**

Paula Brown (Mum), Fred Brown (Dad), Leighana Brown (Sister), Troy Brown (Brother) & Nathan Williams (Brother).

**Where have you come from to join DSC?**

Originally from Bundaberg, Queensland.

**What do you love most about Diamantina Shire?**

I love watching the sunsets and going for long drives.

**Interest/Hobbies. Favourite Day off activity?**

Camping and taking my dogs for a swim.

**Most challenging aspect of residing in the Diamantina Shire?**

Waiting for mail lol.

**Looking forward to in the next 12 months?**

To see what new opportunities 2023 brings me.

# DIAMANTINA SHIRE COUNCIL STAFF PROFILE



Nerissa Parsons

Position: Children Services Facilitator  
Birdsville

## Family:

My partner and I have 2 children - Harmony aged 6, and Wyatt, aged 2. I grew up in the Diamantina and still have lots of family residing in the area.

## Professional background? Where have you come from to join DSC?

Previously worked as a Lake Eyre Basin Ranger in Longreach for 5 years before moving back to Birdsville.

## What do you love most about Diamantina Shire?

Birdsville is my home. I love this little town.

## Most challenging aspect of residing in the Diamantina Shire?

Not living close to a shopping centre.

## Looking forward to in the next 12 months?

Holidays and time spent with my partner and children.



# INFRASTRUCTURE REPORT

## ADAM WHITFIELD - WORKS COORDINATOR

### Town Services – Bedourie

With the end of tourist season everything is back to business as usual with the crews busy keeping up with the maintenance in town. Minor repairs were required on the irrigation system and have been completed.

### Town Services – Birdsville

The Parks and Gardens Crew have been busy keeping the town clean and getting back to business as usual now that the tourist season is over. The Birdsville Parks and Gardens Crew were excited to receive the long-awaited new addition to their fleet - a Kubota tractor and slasher.



A new Kubota tractor and slasher for Birdsville

### Project Management

**Bedourie and Birdsville Sewer CCTV inspection:** The contract was awarded to Safe Dig Services, with the contractors currently working in Bedourie and heading to Birdsville on 18 November 2022, this project will be completed by the end of November 2022.

**Bedourie Bore Manifold Shed Construction:** Sheds have been delivered to the Council depot. Quotations are currently being submitted. The contract is to be awarded before the end of November 2022, with project completion expected early 2023.

**Bedourie Guard Rail Installation (near the bore manifold):** The guard rail for this project has been delivered; these works will be carried out by Council crews early 2023 following the shed construction.

**Bedourie Golf Club Solar System Installation:** Materials to be picked up and delivered to the Council depot on 24 November 2022. Installers are flying to Bedourie on 5 December 2022 with the project to be completed by 10 December 2022.

# INFRASTRUCTURE REPORT

## ADAM WHITFIELD - WORKS COORDINATOR

### Project Management

Bedourie Aboriginal Corporation Houses: Painters will be arriving Friday 11 November 2022, it is anticipated that the painting works will be completed and ready for tenancy before Christmas. Budget has been allocated to undertake the fencing works in the Corporation Houses, as well as the other residences in Bedourie that require new fencing.



Bedourie Aboriginal Corporation house painting works completed November 2022

Birdsville ANZAC Park (Water park area) works is now completed. Perfect timing as the weather warms up!



Birdsville ANZAC Park - water park



# INFRASTRUCTURE REPORT

## ADAM WHITFIELD - WORKS COORDINATOR

### Road construction and maintenance

Road construction and maintenance crews have been busy over the last month carrying out various construction and maintenance activities.

**Construction Crew:** The crew are currently working on the last section of the Old Roseberth Road project getting it ready for testing; with prime seal due early December 2022. The project is well on track to be completed by the December shutdown (weather pending).

**Patrol Crew :** The crews are currently grading -

Bedourie Windorah Road. ~15 kilometers remaining, to be completed by 18 November 2022 (weather pending)

Carcoory Stony Crossing Road. Contractors have completed three sections of flood repair work on this road

**Civil/Multi Skilled Crew:** The crew has commenced the gravel re-sheet on the Birdsville Betoota Road (the 19 km section Birdsville side of the serpent - chainage 119 to chainage 138). The Crew has also completed various signage replacements in the Shire.

**Diamantina Lakes Culvert Replacement:** All works are completed – culverts installed, side track removed, approaches have been reinstated and the road is open.



Completed culvert

### New rest area signage

Council has been successful in receiving additional funding under the RMPC contract to upgrade rest area signage at the Rainbow Serpent rest area, the rest area north of Bedourie and Carcoory Rest Area.

### New signage – Birdsville town common

New 'No taking of firewood from the town common' signs have been delivered to be installed in the coming weeks at the entry to the Birdsville town common.





# MUNGA - THIRRRI - SIMPSON DESERT NATIONAL PARK

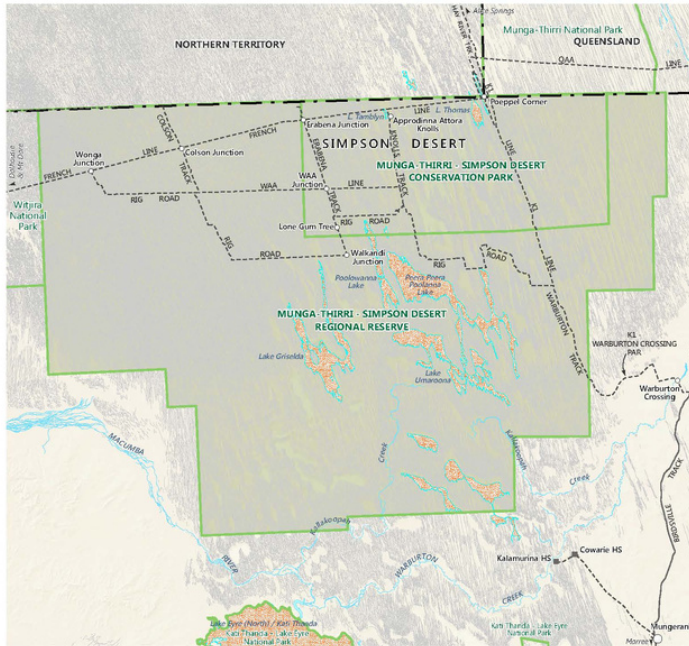
## Munga-Thirri - Simpson Desert Conservation Park and Regional Reserve



Government of  
South Australia



National Parks  
South Australia



- Unsealed road
- Track
- State border
- Munga-Thirri - Simpson Desert Conservation Park and Regional Reserve
- Park boundary
- Mainly dry lake
- Sandridges



DEW does not guarantee that this map is error free. Use of this map is at the user's sole risk and the information contained on the map may be subject to change without notice.  
Cartography by DEW, Adelaide - 2019

Visit parks.sa.gov.au  
Get the Australia's Parks app  
to use park maps on your phone.  
For more information, contact  
(08) 8648 5300

## Full closure of Munga-Thirri-Simpson Desert National Park 6pm 30/11/2022 - 6pm 15/03/2023

Whole of park and reserve will be closed from 6pm Wednesday 30 November 2022 until 6pm Wednesday 15 March 2023 due to anticipated high daytime temperatures likely to be experienced during the closure period.



DESERT YARNS

diamantinashire@gmail.com

07 4564 2000



The Diamantina  
Birdsville Bedourie Betoota  
Where the Desert meets the Channel Country

# *CSIRO AEROSPAN PHOTOMETER RELOCATION*

In November, CSIRO moved their AeroSPAN Photometer Instrument to a new location in Birdsville and invited Council to a demonstration on the unit works. The instrument measures air quality, for example dust and particles, and is operated by battery operated solar power. The unit needed to be dismantled before being moved and is now located on the west side of the airport.

Pictured below is Cr Don Rowlands inspecting the instrument with David Barker and James Harnwell from Oceans Atmosphere CSIRO.



Cr Don Rowlands (Left), David Barker (Centre), James Harnwell (Right).





# EMERGENCY SERVICES NOTICES



Volunteering with the **State Emergency Service**

The **SES** is a volunteer-based organisation that is designed to empower people to help themselves and others in their community in times of emergency and disaster.

## OPERATIONAL ROLES IN THE SES

Some of the roles SES members may undertake during and after emergency situations are:

- » Flood boat evacuation and rescue
- » Temporary repairs to homes
- » Vertical rescue, cliff and cave rescue
- » Chainsaw operations
- » Road crash rescue
- » First aid and Welfare

SES members also provide vital support to other emergency services with the provision of:

- » Crime scene/forensic searches
- » Searches for missing persons
- » Aerial observations

## NON-OPERATIONAL ROLES IN THE SES

**Community Engagement:** SES members who are skilled communicators can educate the community to be more resilient and better prepared when emergencies occur.

**Administration:** SES members who are skilled in organising and planning are central to the running of the SES.

**Operational Support:** SES members who may not want to be involved in the physical side of an operational role are able to assist through many crucial support roles, including incident management, communications and logistics.



Contact your local SES group or  
visit [qfes.qld.gov.au/employment](http://qfes.qld.gov.au/employment)



Contact Thomas Higgs Local Controller Diamantina Unit –  
[thomas.higgs@ses.qfes.qld.gov.au](mailto:thomas.higgs@ses.qfes.qld.gov.au) or 0428 895 334

Emergency/ Urgent/ life or property in danger... 000 (112 from mobile)  
Non urgent reporting..... 131444 or Policelink online reporting  
Crime stoppers..... 1800 330 000

Bedourie Police Station: 07 4144 1600      Bedourie QGAP (licensing/rego): 07 4744 1601  
Bedourie QGAP opening hours: Tuesday and Wednesdays 8am – 4pm.

Birdsville Police Station: 07 4744 1666      Birdsville QGAP: 07 4744 1663      Fax 07 4656 3312  
Birdsville QGAP opening hours: Monday & Tuesdays 8am -5pm

Phillip Plant  
Officer in Charge  
Bedourie Police Station  
Elisabeth Plant  
QGAP Supervisor

Stephan Pursell  
Officer in Charge  
Birdsville Police Station  
Sharon Pursell  
QGAP Supervisor



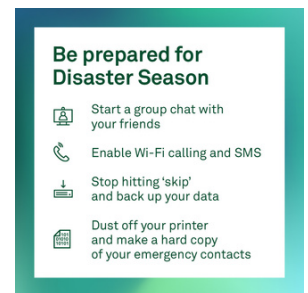
# GET READY FOR SUMMER!

It's time to prepare for the upcoming severe weather season!

Diamantina Shire is a place of extreme weather - storms, wind, floods, bushfires, elevated temperatures and heatwaves. The Bureau of Meteorology has predicted a La Nina weather pattern for the third year in a row, bringing wetter than average conditions again to Queensland. Severe temperatures and extreme heatwaves have claimed more lives than any other natural hazard in Australia. Elevated temperatures also affect the transport, agriculture, energy sectors and associated infrastructure in our communities.

Heat waves and severe temperatures can impact anyone. However, there are members of our community that are particularly vulnerable and need to take special care. This includes:

- babies and young people
- elderly
- people with medical conditions such as asthma
- pets, and
- people working outdoors



If you are in one of these vulnerable categories, or care for someone who is, it is important to follow a few simple steps to reduce your risk to stay cool and hydrated during heat wave [www.getready.qld.gov.au](http://www.getready.qld.gov.au)



What is a heatwave?

Have you been in a heatwave? What was it like?

How do you know if there is going to be a heatwave?

What damage can a heatwave cause?

What are the ways to protect yourself and others during a heatwave?

## HEATWAVE

[getready.qld.gov.au](http://getready.qld.gov.au)

- 1 A heatwave is any long period of very hot weather. They are the deadliest natural hazard in Queensland.
- 2 Heatwaves impact anyone but it is important to take special care of:
  - Babies and children, the elderly, people with medical conditions
  - Pets
  - People who work in the outdoors
- 3 In a heatwave:
  - Drink lots of water
  - Stay in the shade and use fans or air-conditioning
  - Wear light clothing, a head and sunscreen
- 4 Understand symptoms of heat sickness:
  - Feeling sick or vomiting
  - Dizzy or weak
  - Fast breathing or short of breath
  - High temperature
  - Red, dry skin
- 5 The number to call if you need emergency health care is "000"
- 6 **Get ready:** go to your local council or the Get Ready Queensland web pages to find an emergency plan you can do.

PROUD PARTNERS OF  
GET READY QUEENSLAND



DESERT YARNS

[diamantinashire@gmail.com](mailto:diamantinashire@gmail.com)

07 4564 2000





# 2022 REMEMBRANCE DAY

## BEDOURIE AND BIRDSVILLE



Diamantina Shire Council Nadine Lorenz (Tourism Coordinator), Deputy Mayor Francis Murray, Cr Don Rowlands and Ari Gardner (Tourism Officer)



Birdsville Remembrance Day service



Bedourie



Bedourie Remembrance Day service



Miss Venessa Harris and Mr James Tait attend the Birdsville Remembrance Day service with Birdsville State School students



# BREAST CANCER BRUNCH

## BEDOURIE

### Bedourie Breast Cancer Brunch



Photographs courtesy of Katrina Wills

Congratulations to Ameya on winning  
the Lucky Door Prize



Residents gathered at Bedourie Community Centre on Saturday 22nd October for an enjoyable morning raising funds for breast cancer research and awareness. Great company, good food, games, prizes and plenty of pink.

## Garbage Collection - Christmas & New Year period



Changed garbage collection days for Bedourie and Birdsville:  
Wednesday 28th December 2022  
Wednesday 4th January 2023

Reminder: Bin must be placed on the kerbside before 6.00am on collection day, correctly positioned with the lid opening facing the street. Always check that your bin is not obstructed by vehicles.



# MELBOURNE CUP DAY

## BIRDSVILLE



Birdsville residents - Alarna Achterberg and Sam Watkins



Best Dressed Lady and Gentleman  
- Nadine and Darren Lorenz



Flo Martin and Aniela Braun



Roseberth Station



Birdsville Social Club stalwarts - Darren Lorenz, Don Rayment, Nadine Lorenz, Judy Rayment, Rhonda Heslin and Dan Heslin



Lyn and Don Rowlands



Olivia Longley (Cordillo Downs) and  
Wilson Love (Adria Downs)

Proudly coordinated by Birdsville Social Club Inc.



Pandie Pandie Station



# MELBOURNE CUP DAY

## BIRDSVILLE



Adorable Henry Watson all smiles at the Melbourne Cup celebrations, with parents Damien and Laura



Birdsville Social Club Catering Coordinators - Gerri and Amber Monaghan with Treasurer, Philip Bakker



Stunning Clifton Hills station crew travelled in to join the Melbourne Cup day celebrations in Birdsville



Melbourne Cup Trivia Winners - Matthew Fatnowna & Donald Dodd



Deadly Diamantina kids L-R: Zara Burke, Tully Burke, Emily Morton, Cameron Morton, Izaak Morton, Harmony Dodd and Elyssa Morton



Best Dressed Lady - Nadine Lorenz and Runner-Up Best Dressed Lady - Kylie Bailey-Hill



Farewell and appreciation celebrations for Rhonda Heslin





# *BIRDSVILLE STATE SCHOOL*

It's hard to believe that we are at the end of the year. We had a wonderful awards night and community Christmas Tree evening last night, thank you to all involved especially the Birdsville Hotel for helping to organise Santa to fly in and deliver the kids presents. Our newsletter has moved to an online platform, If you haven't yet downloaded our app please install this. It is the SZapp and our school code is 4562. All newsletters, announcements and our school calendar will also be available on this app.

Our students have had a fantastic last few weeks of the term, a highlight being Bedourie Splash and Arts. Thank you to Leanne and Bedourie State School for hosting such a fantastic week. The students had a blast learning how to play the harp and make claymation figures, along with swimming lessons. An extra big thank you to James, Venessa, Courtney and Nerissa for accompanying our students for the week.

We had a successful P&C AGM on the 2nd November. I would like to welcome all members and congratulate our executive members. Our 2022 President is Nadine Lorenz, Secretary Nerissa Parsons and Treasurer Cortney Nealon.

Our students have been very lucky to be participating in swimming lessons with Sam twice a week. The pool has been quite cold but we have enjoyed every minute. Thank you Sam for your time this term! In other pool news, we have been successful at obtaining a grant for a pool heater! This will hopefully mean that our pool can be used all year.

As part of our HASS unit this semester students were required to investigate waste management in their community. On Monday 21st we went on an excursion to the containers for change depot. We learnt about the process around this and why it is important that we recycle. Thank you Greg for the fantastic tour, our students have been taking caps off bottles and making sure they go into our green bin!

I would like to say a very big THANK YOU to Mr Tait, sadly he has his last day with us today. We thank you for your dedication to our students and community over the last two years. All the best for your new school and we look forward to hearing from you.

Next year, we welcome Harriet Birchley and her family to our community. A community welcome meet and greet BBQ will be held on Thursday 19th January 2023. More details will come closer to the date. I have attached her introduction letter to this newsletter in case you missed our Facebook post last week.

I wish you all a very safe and happy holiday. We look forward to seeing you all in the new year.

Laura







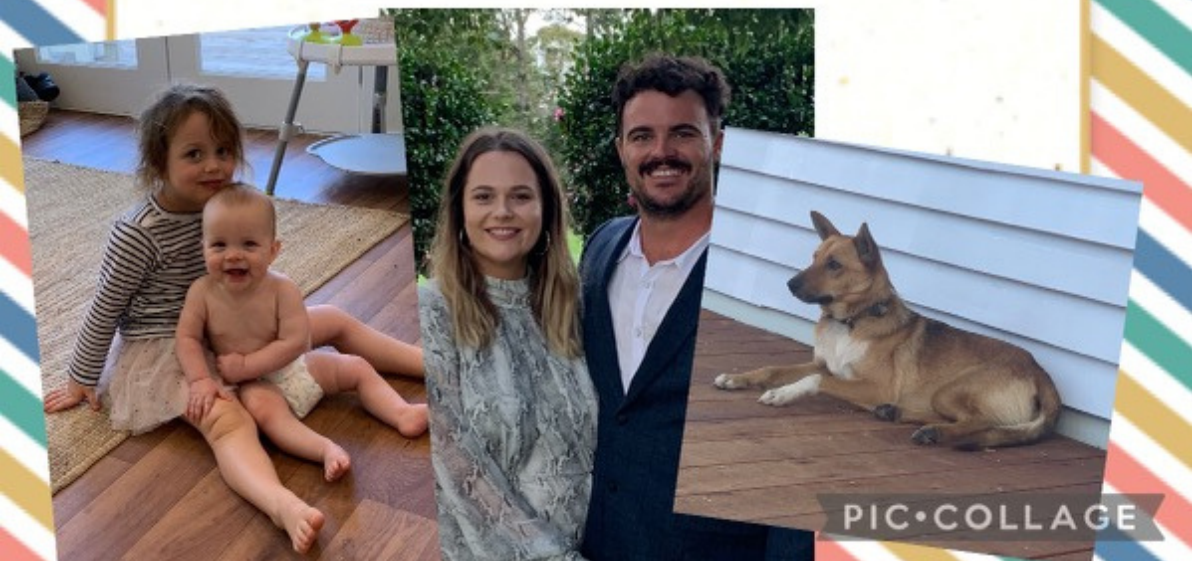
# *BIRDSVILLE STATE SCHOOL*

Hi Birdsville families!

My name is Harriet Birchley. I will be your new teacher for 2023. I will be moving in the new year with my husband (Isaac, whose nickname is Jack), two children (Elle and Bruce) and our dog, Duggie. Elle will be starting Kindy next year and Bruce will be around 9.5 months when we arrive. Jack is an electrician who can do some work if anyone needs it. He plans to use his other time to finish his degree.

We have never lived remote before, however we have some rural experience which hopefully helps us acclimatise well! Meanwhile both our parents and grandparents come from farming backgrounds all over Central Queensland and Darling Downs regions. Currently, we live on a cattle property that my parents manage near Beaudesert.

I wanted to come to Birdsville for the opportunity to be a part of this remote town. It will be very different to how we live now, but we are up for the challenge. I am most looking forward to getting to know all the children and continuing to make Birdsville SS a great school where the kids love to be every day. As a family, we are looking forward to becoming a part of the community and getting involved in whatever we can.







## Bedourie State School News

Only four more days to go until the kids can pack up their pencil cases and have a seven-week holiday. 2022 is nearly done and dusted! This term has been as busy as usual, with little time for us to take a breather!!

The students have all been working very hard on their Poems and are looking forward to presenting them to the community at our End of Year Celebration and Christmas Tree on Friday night. They have also put in a mighty effort and have completed the bulk of their assessments.

Last Friday night we gathered for Holly's Graduation. It was a lovely way to farewell Holly as she moves on to the next stage of her education at Scotts College in Warwick. We will also farewell Shelby, Kenadie, Jourdyn and Juliet Pollard at the end of the week as they make their way over to Dysart.

Ms Jade, who has been our Kindy Whisperer for the past year, is moving down to the other end of town to work at the Roadhouse; Kassie (our cleaner) is going over to Dysart; and Ms R is packing up and moving all the way up to Normanton. We wish everyone leaving us all the best in their new ventures, and thank them for the time and effort they have put in here at the school.

Finally, we wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and look forward to seeing you in 2023.

### Holly's Graduation







## Splash'N'Arts Camp

On 7<sup>th</sup> November, students and staff from Stonehenge, Jundah, Windorah and Birdsville State Schools arrived in Bedourie for Splash'N'Arts Camp. This year we had a record forty-four students who rotated through Swimming (with Karen), Life Saving (with Helen), Claymations (with Grant) and Harp (with Christine). A huge thank you to our instructors who made the time to travel out and give us all such an excellent week. Thanks also to Rex, who flew in all the students and staff from Stonehenge, Jundah and Windorah schools. It was an absolutely amazing week of not only learning new swimming and arts skills, but also of 'being kinder' to all those around us.





# LETTERS TO SANTA

## BIRDSVILLE



Tully Burke and Harmony Dodd



Michael Blyth and Zara Burke working hard on their Santa letters, under the supportive eye of Birdsville State School teacher, Mr James Tait



Lilly Blyth and Zara Burke posting their letters to Santa

Birdsville Wirrarri Visitor Information Centre hosted the children from Birdsville State School and Birdsville Playgroup for an exciting morning of letter writing to Santa, Christmas book reading and colouring.



Story Time!



Tourism Officer, Ari Gardner collects the posted letters for Santa



Fun morning of Christmas celebrations

# FIRST 5 FOREVER!



Have fun with your little one during the holidays.  
Holidays always bring new opportunities for fun!

If older siblings are at home on school holidays, ask them to read with your little one. This is a great way for them to practice their own literacy skills too, and provides an appreciative audience for them to practice on!

Cook together. Make gifts to bring friends and family or a special treat to share. Invite your child to read the recipe with you, pointing out the different words and measurements to them as you go.

Make decorations together. Try stringing pasta shapes on string, making paper chains or cutting out shapes for your little one to decorate. Chat about what you are doing as you go, and remember to pause for the little noises or sounds babies and toddlers make in response to you – these are their earliest attempts at conversation!

You can encourage your toddler or preschooler to draw pictures to give to friends and family, or make cards with special messages for loved ones.

Sing songs together. From traditional nursery rhyme songs to words you make up yourselves, singing slows words down and helps your child to learn. Don't forget – your child doesn't mind if you are out of tune! They just love to hear your voice.



*The  
first five years  
last a lifetime*

# COMMUNITY NOTICES



## Australia Day Award Nominations



Nominations are now open for Diamantina Shire's 2023 Australia Day Awards.

Award categories and eligibility include:

### Citizen of the Year Award

A person must be 26 years or older on 26 January of the award year and have made a noteworthy contribution during the current year and/or given outstanding service to the local community over a number of years.

### Young Citizen of the Year Award

A person must be under 26 years of age as at 26 January of the award year and have made a noteworthy contribution during the current year and/or given outstanding service to the local community over a number of years.

### Senior Sports Person / Sports Administrator Award

Persons over the age of 18 as at 26 January of the award year, who have a noteworthy record of achievement in sport or who have made a significant contribution to sport as a coach, official or administrator.

### Junior Sports Award

A person under the age of 18 as at 26 January of the award year and have a noteworthy record of achievement in sport.

### Community Event of the Year

An event held in the council area which has made a noteworthy contribution to the cultural life of the local community or is an outstanding achievement in cultural activity/ies. The event is to have occurred in the period since the most recent Australia Day Awards (i.e. 2 years).

Nomination forms have been emailed and also are available from Council office, Birdsville and Bedourie Visitor Information Centre's. All nomination forms will be confidential and only disclosed to the Selection Panel.

Nominations must be submitted to council by **5pm, 13 December 2022.**



# COMMUNITY NOTICES

**FREE**  
ADULT  
SUPERVISION  
REQUIRED

**BEDOURIE  
&  
BIRDSVILLE  
PLAYGROUPS**

**BEDOURIE**  
Bedourie Community Hall  
Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday  
Morning Session: 8:30am - noon  
Afternoon Session: 2:30 - 4:30pm (Mon & Tues)  
& 2:30 - 5pm (Wed)

**BIRDSVILLE**  
Birdsville Community Hall  
Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday  
Morning Session: 8:30am - noon  
Afternoon Session: 2:30 - 4:30pm

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

**SAVE THE  
DATE!!!**

**BEDOURIE  
RACES  
SEPTEMBER 9TH  
2023**

More details to follow!



## SSAA

**THE SPORTING SHOOTERS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA BEDOURIE BRANCH Inc.**

The SSAA Bedourie Branch operates a shooting range adjacent to the Bedourie Racecourse, we are a small club and are in the process of building the profile of the club within the community. We recently hosted a firearms safety course at the club in late 2021 which proved very successful, and we have had some initial requests for another course to be held in Bedourie.

To enable the club to organise another firearms course, we need to have sufficient numbers for the trainer to hold the course in Bedourie.

If you would like to attend a firearms safety course for the following categories:

- \*Category A>B - Rifle/Shotgun
- \*Category H - Pistol

Please contact -

Matt Young - 0417 005 607 or Thomas Higgs 0428 895 334  
or email: [admin@ssaabedourie.org.au](mailto:admin@ssaabedourie.org.au)

## BIRDSVILLE POST OFFICE & FUEL SERVICE

### SUMMER OPENING HOURS

Monday	12 noon - 5.00pm
Tuesday	8.30am - 1.00pm
Wednesday	8.30am - 1.00pm
Thursday	12 noon - 5.00pm
Friday	8.30am - 1.00pm
Saturday	CLOSED
Sunday	CLOSED
Public Holidays	CLOSED

If you require unleaded / premium fuel or to collect mail out of hours please contact the Birdsville Roadhouse, they will be happy to assist

# COMMUNITY NOTICES

## Be prepared for Disaster Season



Start a group chat with your friends



Enable Wi-Fi calling and SMS



Stop hitting 'skip' and back up your data



Dust off your printer and make a hard copy of your emergency contacts

<https://exchange.telstra.com.au/tag/disaster-season/>



### QGAP

Queensland Government Agent Program

The Birdsville QGAP office will be unattended until further notice due to a death in our family.

If you require assistance, please contact Lisy Plant at the Bedourie QGAP Office.

Bedourie QGAP 4744 1601

Email: [QGAP.Bedourie@police.qld.gov.au](mailto:QGAP.Bedourie@police.qld.gov.au)

Kind regards

Sharon Pursell  
QGAP, Birdsville



# COMMUNITY NOTICES



**Bedourie P&C  
XMAS TREE**

PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF VENUE.  
THE XMAS TREE & SCHOOL BREAKUP WILL BE HELD AT THE  
BEDOURIE COMMUNITY CENTRE!

WHEN - DECEMBER 2<sup>ND</sup> 2022  
WHERE - BEDOURIE COMMUNITY HALL  
TIME - 5:00PM

IF YOU COULD PLEASE EMAIL EMMA AT [ecar353@eq.edu.au](mailto:ecar353@eq.edu.au)  
WITH YOUR CHILD/CHILDREN'S FULL NAME & AGE **ASAP** SO SANTA KNOWS HOW MANY  
PRESENTS TO BRING!



# COMMUNITY NOTICES

**2023**  
**Save The Dates**



**13 & 14 May 2023**  
Birdsville Rodeo, Campdraft & Bronco Branding

**24 & 25 June 2023**  
Birdsville Horse & Bike Gymkhana

 Proudly coordinated by Birdsville Social Club

*Save The Date - Saturday 31st December 2022*

**-HAPPY-**  
**2023**  
*New Year*

*Pelican Point - Birdsville*  
Proudly coordinated by Birdsville Social Club

**POSTAGE  
STAMP  
INCREASE**



As of 3rd January, 2023 there will be an increase to domestic letter prices.

This includes the basic postage rate from \$1.10 to \$1.20



**More Info**  
@ Birdsville Post Office



# COMMUNITY NOTICES

## Bedourie Aquatic Centre

Bedourie Aquatic Centre in Nappa Street is open 7 days/week during daylight hours throughout Summer.  
Access cards are \$10 and allows 4 adults unlimited access whilst staying in Bedourie.  
Obtained from the Bedourie Visitor Information Centre.



Birdsville State School Pool



SUSTAINABLY DEVELOPING THE OUTBACK

## PUBLIC NOTICE

### BIRDSVILLE STATE SCHOOL POOL - OPENING HOURS

The Diamantina Shire Council wishes to advise that the Birdsville State School Pool is now open to the public in the following hours:

#### During School Holidays and Weekends:

6:00am to 6:00pm, with the exception of the June/July holiday period.

#### During School Term Weekdays:

5:00am to 7:30am, then 3:30pm to 6:00pm.

Keys can be obtained from the Wirrari Information Centre during opening hours.

Note that **NO ALCOHOL** is allowed on or in the pool area.

For any urgent matters, please contact Nadine Lorenz on 0477 680 700.

Tim Rose  
INTERIM CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER  
12 October 2022

836  
Diamantina Shire Council  
The Chief Executive Officer  
17 Herbert Street  
BEDOURIE QLD 4829

ABN: 87 774 161  
Telephone: (07) 4746 1600  
Facsimile: (07) 4746 1272  
E: [admin@diamantina.qld.gov.au](mailto:admin@diamantina.qld.gov.au)  
W: [www.diamantina.qld.gov.au](http://www.diamantina.qld.gov.au)

# COMMUNITY CONTACTS

## DIAMANTINA SHIRE COUNCIL CONTACTS

Tim Rose - Interim Chief Executive Officer  
(07) 4746 1600  
Tim.Rose@Diamantina.qld.gov.au

Nadine Lorenz - Tourism Coordinator  
(07) 4564 2033  
nadine.lorenz@diamantina.qld.gov.au

Birdsville Town Services Foreman  
(07) 4564 2093 AH - 0407 146 902

Bedourie Town Services Foreman  
(07) 4746 1600 AH - (07) 4746 1600

## DIAMANTINA SHIRE COUNCIL ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES

Robbie Dare - Mayor  
0427 461 291  
Rob.Dare@Diamantina.qld.gov.au

Francis Murray - Deputy Mayor  
0438 999 267  
Francis.Murray@Diamantina.qld.gov.au

Cr Don Rowlands  
0407 146 902  
Don.Rowlands@Diamantina.qld.gov.au

Cr Sharon Pursell  
0413 454 785  
Sharon.Pursell@Diamantina.qld.gov.au

Cr Kerry Morton  
0488 544 506  
Kerry.Morton@Diamantina.qld.gov.au

## JUSTICE OF THE PEACE BEDOURIE

Leanne Hohnke-Jansen JP (Qual)  
Bedourie State School  
(07) 4746 1224

## JUSTICE OF THE PEACE BIRDSVILLE

Nell Brook JP (Qual)  
Brook Proprietors  
(07) 4656 3252

Don Rowlands JP (Qual)  
National Park Office  
(07) 4656 3272

David Brook JP (C.Dec)  
Brook Proprietors  
(07) 4656 3252



Our monthly Community Newsletter, Desert Yarns, is a free service provided by Diamantina Shire Council, to inform residents and visitors of our local news, community events, activities and more.

If you have any community information, news, articles or photos that you wish to see in Desert Yarns please email: [diamantinashire@gmail.com](mailto:diamantinashire@gmail.com)