

GENERAL NEWS

October has been a very busy month for Council staff with flood damage and road network issues keeping crews working many long hours and over weekends to ensure access issues are alleviated.

YOUNG ROTARACT PARK – PLAY EQUIPMENT RENEWAL AND INSTALLATION OF SHADE STRUCTURES

Council was successful in securing funds under the NSW 'Social Housing Community Improvement Fund'. Work will commence at the site in February 2017.

Young Parks, Gardens and Sports Fields

Parks and gardens staff have been kept busy with spring park maintenance including; mowing, general maintenance and aerating.

Cricket pitches are all now open for use apart from Alfred Oval which still requires further maintenance prior to being ready for use.

Turf areas of Alfred Oval have been top-

dressed after the football season and Cranfield Oval will also receive top dressing. Hollow tine coring to improve soil conditions has been completed; this will also allow the application in November of fertilizers and soil improvers to penetrate deep into the soil profile to improve growth and drainage.

All sports fields are in the final stage of being changed over from winter to summer sports with the removal of goal post and line marking for Touch Football, Little Athletics and cricket boundary lines.

The playground inspection system has identified the need to top up all playground soft fall zones and a delivery of certified playground mulch will be delivered next month to undertake these works to ensure they are maintained at the correct depth.

Council and contractors have commenced the task of controlling the grass growth with the primary focus being fire hazard control in public reserves, urban roadsides and mowing town approaches in preparation for the Cherry Festival.



Flood damage repair: Sandy Creek, Reids Flat Road



Slashing in the Southern Area near Harden.

BOOROWA CAMPBELL STREET SEWAGE PUMPING STATION

The new Campbell Street Sewage Pumping Station has been in operation for a number of weeks with some minor operational issues still to be resolved. Council staff are working with the contractor to finalise these issues within the next few weeks, at which point the project will be completed.

SOUTH BOOROWA GROUNDWATER STUDY

This project has been delayed as a result of continued wet weather during winter and early spring, restricting access to paddocks for soil testing. With warmer weather upon us, additional excavation and soil sampling is planned to be undertaken on Tuesday 29 November. These samples will then be tested and assessed with results informing the final study report which is expected to be available early in the new year.

YOUNG WALKING COMMUNITIES PROGRAM

The 'Pedestrian Access and Mobility Plan' for the Young area is strategically targeting improved pedestrian facilities in high volume pedestrian use areas such as the medical precincts, school zones, and the Young central business district.

Works have been completed at:

Edward Street – traffic island to form a pedestrian refuge at the Edwards Street and

McLerie Street intersection

William Street – pedestrian refuge island at McLerie Street intersection

These works are safety improvements for pedestrian traffic around the Young North Public School.

BENNETT SPRINGS BRIDGE

Following a tender process, a design and construct contract has been awarded to Transbridge Group. Council considered options for either a dual lane or single lane bridge, and decided to proceed with the dual lane option. It is expected that design works will be completed early in the new year with construction of the new concrete bridge planned for completion by mid to late 2017.

ROADSIDE SLASHING

With fire season upon the Hilltops region and an excess amount of fuel in the way of overgrown vegetation, Council crews have been kept busy slashing roadsides and mowing verges.

Council encourages all residents to ensure that they have an emergency fire plan in place and are prepared for the high risk season ahead.

MR 379 – WOMBAT TO HARDEN ROAD

Higher traffic roads such as MR 379 are receiving extensive attention by Council road crews, to ensure that residents and visitors to the region are able to travel between our many villages and towns and to enable the



Flood damage - Tangmangaroo Road, Eastern Area near Boorowa

many machinery and truck movements that will be occurring during the harvest season.

SOUTHERN AREA ROADWORKS

Crews in the Harden area of the Hilltops Council have been working hard to repair storm damage across the road network. The pictures below show stabilisers and rollers across the southern parts of the Hilltops Council region, bringing the roads back up to a suitable standard.

The road stabilisation process seeks to repair the damage that excessive use and moisture penetration have on the integrity of roads. The condition of each road has been compromised by the extremely wet weather experienced across the Hilltops in the last few months. Additives are used based on tested soil volume and strength, compressibility, permeability, and durability.

BOOROWA FLOOD DAMAGE & DRAINAGE WORKS

Crews in the eastern area of the region have been busy solving drainage issues that have caused road scouring and increased network damage following the recent storm activity.

Work is pictured on Geegullalong Road, Tangmangaroo Road, Woolpack Road and Sandy Creek near Reids Flat.

BOOROWA FOOTBALL & NETBALL CARNIVAL

This year's Combined Football and Netball Carnival was a definite success, bringing thousands of visitors to the Boorowa

Showground. Council staff put in many hours of preparatory work, was instrumental in the smooth running of the day with particular dedication to traffic control, and ensured the grounds were tidy and ready for other users soon after the Carnival ended.

Their efforts were greatly appreciated, with the following letter of commendation being sent in from the event's coordinator.

On behalf of the Boorowa Central School and St Joseph's Primary School, I would like to thank the Hilltops Council for the tremendous assistance given to our carnival on Friday. The outdoor staff, led by Mr Danny Cassells, did a fantastic job.

Once again, we have been able to pull off the largest Carnival in the Southern Hemisphere, with the assistance and help received from Council and the wider Boorowa community, a fantastic effort thanks to everyone's support and help.

Please pass on our sincere thanks to all involved.

YOUNG AREA ROADS MAINTENANCE

With weather conditions improving in the western area of Hilltops Council, crews have been busy with minor pavement patches, culvert repair and drainage works.

Grading crews have been busy repairing problem areas on unsealed roads however, in some areas, works have been deferred to avoid creating more damage with heavy machinery and truck movements which will cause moisture to rise.

Patching teams have been spending the



Running of the Sheep at Boorowa

majority of their time fixing pot holes that are appearing across the entire road network.

Please be mindful of work trucks, heavy plant, machinery and staff members on the roads and drive to the road works speeds and road conditions to ensure our staff's safety while they endeavor to bring the roads back up to a suitable standard.

STAFF TRAINING

Council is extremely conscious of Work, Health and Safety compliance in regards to training needs for staff.

Pictured below, staff work through various tasks to maintain load shifting certification.

WOOLFEST 2016

This year the 20th Irish Woolfest was one that will be definitely be remembered. After weeks of rain and flooding the weather did not let up in the days leading up to the event. However, Council's event management team along with numerous members of the outdoor crews pulled together an incredible day of fun and delivered one of the best years yet! There were many plan B's implemented this year however the weather was absolutely perfect on Sunday, the 2nd of October. There was loads of entertainment and thousands flocked to see the Running of the Sheep. This year the committee reintroduced a jam packed second stage and the Off the Sheep's Back Fashion Parade. A massive thank you

to our dedicated staff but in particular to our Volunteers, Sponsors and fringe events who help to shape such an incredible event for Boorowa and the region.

BOOROWA POOL UPGRADE

The Boorowa Memorial Swimming Pool Upgrade is complete and is a welcome improvement to the Boorowa recreational precinct.

The project was successful, coming in just in time for the opening of the swimming season and has already attracted higher numbers of seasonal users than previous years.

Feedback from the community has been positive and improvements to the services will continue based on suggestions that have come in.



Improvements at Boorowa Pool.