



Spring Bottlebrush, photograph by Penny Chisholm

NEW GENERAL MANAGER'S OVERVIEW AFTER 4 MONTHS

Dear Resident

The compilation of a community newsletter in a hard copy format has resumed and is aimed at being distributed every second month.

I have been in the position of General Manager for four months. The Tenterfield topographical area is one of the most spectacular in Australia; not only are we the "Birthplace of the Nation", but also the "Cradle of Spectacular Environmental Wonder"! Friendly and welcoming people contribute to me truly enjoying my time here and I am looking forward to adding value.

During this time, I got my head around Council's financial position, finalising the 2024/25-Budget for adoption by Council, developing and implementing a revised organisation structure, meeting representatives from different community and Government organisations and groups, and preparing for the onboarding process of newly elected Councillors in September.

Community consultation will start shortly after the local government elections in October 2024, to update the Community Strategic Plan and rest of the State Government mandated suite of Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework documents. This is your opportunity to have your input in Council's direction for the future, so please participate!

Council is currently operating with a significantly reduced workforce; with 82 full time equivalent positions funded in the current financial year. The leadership direction is for Council to become a core-functions-focused entity – delivering primarily roads, water, waste, sewerage, and other infrastructure functions. The organisation will focus a large portion of its attention on asset management, grant funded project execution, and strategic financial planning over the next two to three years.

The present skeleton workforce structure is lean to the extent that it arguably does not meet community service expectations; therefore, your understanding and patience are appreciated. I am committed to productive teams who are delivering effective and efficient services over time.

I am indeed looking forward to working and achieving with the newly elected Council after 14 September.

All the best and keep on living the dream in this special part of the world!

Hein Basson, General Manager

GRANT FUNDED WORKS

Following much work by staff in preparing and applying for Grant Funding, Council is delighted to announce success in receiving \$87 million in funding for specific projects. This funding was awarded and required to be spent on projects directly relating to the Flood and Fire Disaster events of recent years.

Council thanks the Australian and NSW Government for providing support through these funding programs. The following listed projects are examples of some of the larger projects that have been approved and are being pursued:

- * Dumaresq Bridge at Black Creek - \$17.41m
- DRFA (Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements) Project
 - * Billirimba Bridge - \$1.14m - DRFA Project
- * Acacia Creek Bridge - Patersons Road, Legume \$0.8m
 - FCB (Fixing Country Bridges)
- * Mole River Bridge - Springfield Road \$1.3m - FCB
- * Acacia Creek Bridge - Tooloom Street, Legume \$0.9m - FCB
- * Koreelah Creek Bridge - White Swamp Road \$1.4m - FCB
- * Molesworth Street bridge & sewer line - \$9.99m - Regional Road & Transport Recovery Package
- * Tenterfield Creek Stabilisation \$0.99m
 - Community Assets Program



REPLACEMENT COMPACTOR WHEELS

Tenterfield Shire Council was fortunate in securing funding through the EPA Bushfire Recovery Program for Council Landfills CL011 in 2021.

Part of this funding went towards Council being able to replace the existing compactor wheels which were inadequate for compaction causing waste to become entangled in the wheels. The new compactor wheels have been designed and constructed based on the older compactor wheel which is tried and tested to be very successful in reaching the desired compaction level with no ongoing maintenance. These new compactor wheels have been delivered on site at Council's Landfill.

**UPDATED CEMETERY RECORDS
NOW AVAILABLE AT THE LIBRARY**

An updated draft edition of the Tenterfield Cemetery Interments and Graves in the Tenterfield District has been compiled and researched by Jan Friar and Tony Pitkin, with many long hours of effort.

This draft edition is available for perusal at the Tenterfield Library until 30 September 2024 but must remain in the Library.

Come and enjoy the comfortable surrounds of the refurbished Library and discover information about your relatives and ancestors. Family history researchers and interested people are encouraged to check the book entries.

Any suggested alterations, and the reasons for the alteration, can be made on a pro forma sheet to be forwarded to Jan and Tony. Once finalised the book will be printed.

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETINGS

September 2024 - The Ordinary Meeting of Council will be held on 9:30am Wednesday 25 September 2024 in the Koreelah Room, Tenterfield Shire Council Chambers, 247 Rouse Street, Tenterfield.

October 2024 - The Ordinary Meeting of Council will be held on 9:30am Wednesday 23 October 2024 in the Koreelah Room, Tenterfield Shire Council Chambers, 247 Rouse Street, Tenterfield.

Business Papers will be available on the Council website (<https://www.tenterfield.nsw.gov.au/>) by the end of the Thursday before each Ordinary Council Meeting.

Community members wishing to speak on any of the agenda items should contact Council at Council@tenterfield.nsw.gov.au before 5:00pm on Monday the week of the meeting. Requests to speak at the meeting must be in writing using the "Application to Speak at Ordinary Council Meeting" form available on Council's Website <https://www.tenterfield.nsw.gov.au/your-council/forms>.

WEED OF THE MONTH

Common Name: Serrated Tussock

How does this weed affect you?

Serrated tussock is not palatable to stock. Animals grazing on it become malnourished. Serrated tussock can:

- take over pastures and native vegetation
- reduce pasture quality
- contaminate hay and grain.

What does it look like?

Serrated tussock grows in upright tussocks up to 45 cm tall and 25 cm wide. In spring the clumps are light green with brown tips to the leaves. In late spring and early summer the clumps have a purple tinge when the seed heads emerge fully. Plants remain green in summer when other grasses turn brown. After frost the clumps turn a golden yellow.





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[@TenterfieldShireCouncil](https://www.facebook.com/TenterfieldShireCouncil)

VILLAGE BORE PROGRAM TORRINGTON, LISTON, DRAKE & LEGUME: LEGUME IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Tenterfield's Sustainable and Disaster Resilient Communities program is to provide a water source and minor reticulation activities as the Village bore program for Torrington, Liston, Legume and Drake.

NRAR (natural resource access regulator), has given approval for Legume and bore drilling was successful. The new bore at Legume (images of the drilling below) under the village bore program, will be fitted with well-head, pumps solar arrays, water tanks and dispenser over the following months for the community to utilise for stock and in times of fire emergency.



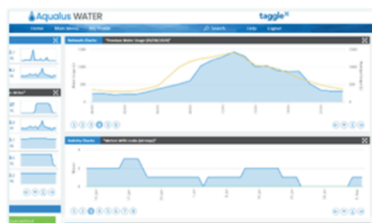
Council is now waiting on approvals to undertake the drilling and fitting of the sites at Torrington, Liston and Drake.

WATER METERS – KEEP YOUR METER CLEAR

Tenterfield's water meters have commenced an upgrade to smart meters, with the assistance of the Department of Planning and Environment's Leakage Reduction Grant. The project consisted of trialling installation of smart meters in Tenterfield along Molesworth Street.

The meters installed at the end of May 2024, are already providing valuable information regarding water use and potential leaks (See image 1). This information is then passed on to owners so investigations and repairs can be made saving water and reducing costs for residents.

While replacing standard meters occurs on a needs basis, smart meters will be installed to assist the process of roll-out. Standard meters will still require reading for billing purposes and smart meters will still require the surrounding area to be clear in order to transmit a signal. For these reasons it is important to keep your meter clear of plants and vegetation.



A MESSAGE FROM OUR RANGER

We've seen an increase in barking dog complaints lately. Complaints we receive often regard dogs of all sizes and breeds, large and small.

Section 32A (1)(b) of the Companion Animals Act, 1998 defines a dog as a nuisance if the dog:

"makes a noise, by barking or otherwise, that persistently occurs or continues to such a degree or extent that it unreasonably interferes with the peace, comfort or convenience of any person in any other premises".

Council's Ranger must investigate, and if necessary, take action on all barking dog complaints. It is essential that dog owners make an effort to control their dogs early, before Council needs to get involved.

