

CHANNEL COUNTRY CHATTER

MONTHLY HOTSPOT

ISSUE 1 January 2024



We hope everyone had a happy and safe Christmas



Photo by Leana Anchor

The recent storms have been much needed with a few local fires in the area.

January Events

January 22nd - School Term Starts

January 26th - Australia Day



Australia Day

Reflect. Respect. Celebrate.

**PLEASE COME AND JOIN US FOR
AUSTRALIA DAY
CELEBRATIONS**

FRIDAY 26TH JANUARY 2024

AT THE BOULIA HALL

COMMUNITY BREAKFAST

8:30AM START

(FREE)

AWARDS CEREMONY

9:15AM ONWARDS

EVERYONE IS WELCOME





PUBLIC NOTICE

BOULIA SHIRE COUNCIL MEETING DATES, LOCATION AND TIMES

In accordance with section 254B of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* notice is hereby given that the following Ordinary meetings of the Boulia Shire Council will be held on the days and times listed below:

Friday, 19th January 2024	Boulia Shire Hall	9 am
Friday, 23 rd February 2024	Boulia Shire Hall	9 am
Tuesday, 12 th March 2024	Boulia Shire Hall	9 am
Friday, 22 nd March 2024	Boulia Shire Hall	9 am
Friday, 26 th April 2024	Boulia Shire Hall	9 am
Friday, 31 st May 2024	Boulia Shire Hall	9 am
Friday, 28 th June 2024	Boulia Shire Hall	9 am
Friday, 26 th July 2024	Boulia Shire Hall	9 am
Friday, 30 th August 2024	Boulia Shire Hall	9 am
Friday, 27 th September 2024	Boulia Shire Hall	9 am
Friday, 25 th October 2024	Boulia Shire Hall	9 am
Friday, 29 th November 2024	Boulia Shire Hall	9 am
Friday, 13 th December 2024	Boulia Shire Hall	9 am

* Please note the above meeting dates/times may be changed by resolution of Council if required.

Chief Executive Officer
Lynn Moore



POSITION VACANT 2/1/2024

**Road Maintenance Performance Contract
Leading Hand**

This department is responsible for the delivery of the Transport and Main Roads contract of works for Boulia Shire Council as well as delivering road maintenance works.

The department is agile and flexible with aspects of waste management and water management coming within its scope of work. It is the primary point of call for all concreting requests with a state of the art batching plant under its control.

The position falls within Level 6, Stream B of the Local Government Industry Award and the Boulia Shire Council Certified Agreement 2019.

The purpose of the Leading Hand – RMPC is to be a part of a multi-disciplined team that is capable of performing a wide range of maintenance, repair, and construction activities on work sites and projects in the Shire. As well as operating plant and labouring, this role leads the team to deliver maintenance activities, construction works or specific tasks and completion of task/project documentation.

Base rate of Pay (38hpw)	\$51,870.00
Half locality allowance	\$2,600.00
Over Award Payment (\$130pw)	\$6,760.00
Superable wage 12%	\$7,035.60
Attraction & Retention Bonus	\$2,500.00
Workplace Health & Safety Bonus	\$1,250.00
Total Annual Rate	\$72,015.60

A copy of the full Position Description is available on Boulia Shire Council website. The position will remain open until filled with applications assessed as received.

Please email hr@boulia.qld.gov.au if you would like further information or send through your resume and a cover letter outlining your experience, interest & references. Subsidised housing may be available for this position.



EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST INVITED

Trainee Finance Officer (12 months)

Boulia Shire Council is seeking interest from suitable candidates interested in obtaining a formal qualification (TAFE) in Finance while working full time. Time would be allocated to dedicate to studies and training provided for practical delivery of role.

This position will involve learning all aspects administration & finance in the Boulia Shire Council main office and full position description is available upon request.

Position will be offered on a full time basis with one RDO per month and will be remunerated as per Local Government Industry (Stream A) Award – State 2017 & Boulia Shire Council Certified Agreement – Level 3.1.

	Weekly Rate	Annually
Base rate of Pay	\$1,082.00	\$56,264.00
Over Award Payment	\$130.00	\$6,760.00
Half locality allowance	\$50.00	\$2,600.00
Totals	\$1,262.00 p/week	\$65,624.00
Plus Superable Wage 12%	\$145.44	\$7,562.88
Annual Retention Bonus		\$2,500.00
Annual Workplace Health & Safety Bonus		\$1,250.00
Total Annual Salary	\$1,407.44 p/week	\$76,936.88

Subsidised furnished accommodation will be available for this position if required. Accommodation (2 bedroom unit) is subsidised at \$145.00 per week.

Please email hr@boulia.qld.gov.au if you would like to express your interest or have further questions. Position closes 29th January 2024 at 12pm Noon.

3rd November 2023

Position Vacant

Permanent Technical Administration Officer

Boulia Shire Council has a current vacancy for the appointment of a Permanent Technical Administration Officer.

This role will primarily provide a broad range of support to the Directorate of Works and Operations with key focuses on the core business such as, but not limited to: asset management, projects relating to the Shire's infrastructure including water, sewerage and buildings; seeking funding opportunities, and tender management.

In accordance with requests from the Director of Works and Operations, the role will also assist with the various tasks in relation to planning, monitoring and the delivery of contractual obligations of the Roads Construction and Maintenance and Road Utilities and Services Crews; and, the external contractors delivering flood damage restoration works and trade services within the Shire.

This role acts within statutory regulations and established procedures, with the flexibility to exercise initiative and judgement within delegated authority seeking guidance from the Director, Works and Operations when necessary.

Position will be offered on a full time basis for 36.25 hours per week and will be remunerated as per Local Government Industry (Stream A) Award – State 2017 & Boulia Shire Council Certified Agreement – Level 5.1

	Hourly	Annually
Base rate of Pay	\$33.93	\$63,960.00
Over Award Payment	\$3.59	\$6,760.00
Half locality allowance	\$1.38	\$2,600.00
Attraction & Retention Bonus		\$2,500.00
Workplace Health & Safety Bonus		\$1,250.00
Totals	\$38.90 p/hour	\$77,070.00
Plus Superable Wage 12%		\$8,486.40
Total Annual Salary including Super		\$85,556.40

Please email hr@boulia.qld.gov.au if you would like further information or to send through your resume and a cover letter expressing your interest in this position. Applications will be reviewed as received with a view to immediate engagement. Subsidised housing will be available for this position ***late December.

14th November 2023



POSITION VACANT

Supervisor Administration Services

The Supervisor Administration Services role is the forward facing public face of the council and is a pivotal link between customers, ratepayers and service providers alike it is the key to the timely delivery of services throughout the shire.

The functional role of Supervisor Administration Services focuses on the administration of councils small administration office and provision of ancillary support to the Senior Executive Officers, the Mayor and Councillors to enable the provision of excellent service delivery to the Council's customer base (internal and external).

This is a very hands on role with support provided to other staff in a training capacity.

This role is a broad scoping position which:

- Provides support for the Customer Service department, within both the Corporate Services sections of the Directorate of Corporate and Financial Services.
- Provides team leadership for the administration front office and also provides training and support of staff at various levels with the undertaking different roles.
- Performs various administrative duties, including but not limited to, the management and operation of office-wide Customer Management system and reporting requirements whilst delivering the required business outcomes.
- Suggested commencement date will be January 2024 (mutually agreed)

Base Rate of pay	\$63,960.00
Locality allowance (single)	\$2,600.00
Over Award Payment	\$6,760.00
Superable wage (Base-CAP) 12%	\$8,486.40
Attraction and Retention Allowance	\$2,500.00
Work Health and Safety Bonus	\$1,250.00
Housing/furniture subsidy	\$3,380.00
Personal effects relocation	*** \$5,000.00
Total employee benefits	\$93,936.00

Applications will be addressed as received with a view to a January commencement. A copy of the Position Description is available upon request. Please email hr@boulia.qld.gov.au if you would like further information. ***the location allowance is not available for current residents of Boulia.



Christmas Time at the Library



Come Along to our First 5 Forever Morning

Wednesday 9:00am – 9:30am

Friday 9:00am – 9:30am

Play Time

At the Boulia Shire Library

Music Time

Story Time

Rhyme Time



Library Hours



Monday – Friday

8:15 – 1:15pm

If you wish to return a book outside these times on a weekday, please pop into the shire office as we will be accepting book returns out of hours



Programs being held
Wednesdays and Fridays
9:00am – 9:30am
Story time, Rhyme time and much more



The first five years last a lifetime

Justice of Peace

If anyone wishing Justice of the Peace services from me, please ring me on 0409233225 to arrange an appointment as I will be on 2 months long service leave and will not be available in library office.

Regards Julie Woodhouse

BOULIA SHIRE LIBRARY

OPEN HOURS: 8:15AM – 1:15PM
MONDAY - FRIDAY
18 HERBERT ST, BOULIA

WHAT WE HAVE TO OFFER:

- ❖ Wednesday and Friday First 5 Forever 9:00am – 10:00am 
- ❖ School Holiday programs
- ❖ 3 x Computers all with internet and 1 with printing ability 
- ❖ Books, DVDs, Audiobooks, Magazines 
- ❖ We can photocopy, enlarge, laminate and scan all in A4 to A3 
- ❖ If you're looking for something digitally to listen to, read or watch please have a look at these apps. All you need is a current library membership, local or tourist.



For more information, please contact us on 07 4746 3408 or library@boulia.qld.gov.au

2024 School calendar Queensland state schools



Attendance Matters



DECEMBER 2023	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL
S M T W T F S 31 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29	S M T W T F S 31 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30
MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER
S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	S M T W T F S 30 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29	S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30
OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER	JANUARY 2025	FEBRUARY 2025
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- School terms
- School holidays
- Public holidays
- Staff professional development/student free days
- Part public holiday after 6 pm

There are 199 school days in 2024.

Semester 1, 2024 commences for teachers on 18 January and for students on 22 January 2024.

STAFF PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAYS

Staff professional development days for teachers are 18 and 19 January, 11 and 12 April and 30 August 2024. Schools are able to decide when they undertake the required hours for professional development for the flexible days, as long as they are on the flexible days, in the school holidays or out of school hours.

PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

Queensland public holidays are set by the Industrial Relations Minister.

Public holidays for local show days are not shown due to diversity of dates across the state.

FINAL DATES FOR STUDENT ATTENDANCE

15 November is the final date for Year 12 attendance for receipt of a Senior Statement. 22 November is the final date for student attendance in Years 10 and 11.

Some schools in regional, rural and remote areas will close for the summer holidays on 6 December.

The information in this calendar was correct at the time of publication but may be subject to change.

For more information and the latest version of this calendar, visit

www.education.qld.gov.au



Elvis at the Christmas Carols



CREATIVE HEARTLANDS

HOLIDAY WORKSHOPS

BOULIA

15 - 16TH JAN | 9-3PM Daily

Boulia Sports and Aquatic Centre
Burke St, Boulia



Join **Topology** and **RASNNQ** for two days of Creative Workshop activities, led by experienced musicians and artists!

Learn about music composition, songwriting and performing in this FREE community workshop.

Snacks and lunch provided.

For more information, contact: **Michael Goddard** | 0484 106 280

TOPOLOGY

regional arts
SERVICES NETWORK | NORTH QUEENSLAND



Boulia
Community
Support Service



AUSTRALIA DAY 2024

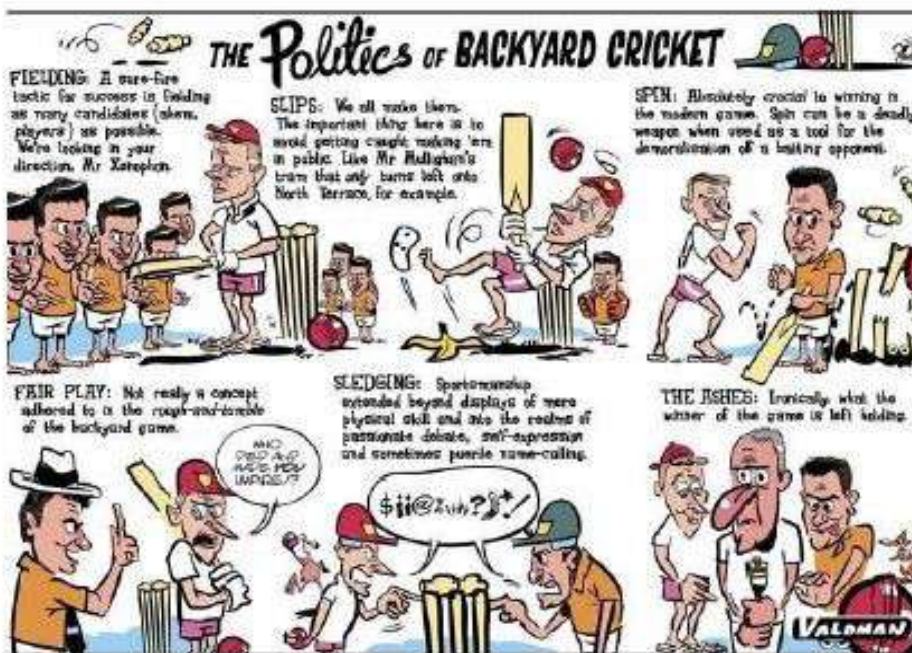
6PM – FREE BACKYARD
BBQ CUISINE

SOFT DRINKS FOR SALE

OLD BUTCHER SHOP

WHEELIE BIN CRICKET

OLD SCHOOL GAMES



Australia Day

Reflect. Respect. Celebrate.



Central West Hospital and Health Service

Media statement



Queensland
Government

12 December 2023

Keep kids safe over the festive season – and at all times

Central West parents should watch out for button batteries this Christmas and supervise children closely around vehicles, pools, and other bodies of water to avoid accidents and potential tragedies.

"I would urge everyone with a pool at home to make sure their pools are properly fenced and that they learn the principles of basic life support," Central West Hospital and Health Service Executive Director of Medical Services Dr David Walker said.

"If there are young children nearby, never leave them unsupervised in or around a pool, creek, dam, pond, or any body of water for that matter.

"Keep an eye on them at all times. It can happen so quickly. Kids are masters at slipping away when you aren't looking and pools, creeks, ponds, and other bodies of water are like magnets to them.

"And not just around bodies of water, always supervise kids around vehicles also.

"It's so easy for a child to slip away unseen and get behind or under a vehicle, just as you are about to drive off or back out of a driveway and think the way is clear.

"They can also dart out from nowhere and into the path of a moving vehicle without any warning.

"So, always keep an eye out. Don't just think your way is clear – make sure it's clear."

As well as paying close attention to water safety and safety around vehicles, Central West parents also should watch out for button battery hazards, Dr Walker said.

"So many products and devices in our homes contain button batteries, from digital kitchen and bathroom scales to key fobs, remote controls, calculators, toys, festive ornaments and musical greeting cards," he said.

"They present not just a choking hazard, but if swallowed or inserted in the nose or ear, the battery charge can cause an internal caustic injury. This can be fatal."

Dr Walker said parents should keep a close eye on products that contain button batteries, small parts and powerful magnets and ensure they are secured.

An easy way to remember how to stay safe this Christmas is to keep in mind the six Ss of toy safety:

Central West Hospital and Health Service

Media statement



Queensland
Government

- **Size** – the smaller the child, the bigger the toy should be. Parts smaller than a ping pong ball could choke a child under three years.
- **Shape** – be wary of products that could be easily swallowed and have sharp points or edges.
- **Surface** – small children will place objects in their mouths so make sure that all materials and finishes are non-toxic.
- **Strings** – any strings over 30 cm long may pose a strangulation hazard for a small child and should be removed.
- **Supervision** – there is no substitute for close supervision by parents and carers.
- **Secure battery compartments** - make sure that battery covers are secure and small children cannot access them.

“If a child swallows a battery, symptoms may mimic common childhood illnesses, with drooling, vomiting, or coughing the most common,” Dr Walker said.

“The child may also have chest pain, abdominal pain and diarrhoea and may refuse hard food, or have a fever.”

Dr Walker said if parents thought their child had swallowed or inserted a button battery, they should call the state-wide poisons information call line on 13 11 26 and seek medical help immediately.

- For more information about pool safety, see: <http://conditions.health.qld.gov.au/HealthCondition/condition/1/79/518/pool-safety>
- About button batteries, see: <https://www.qld.gov.au/health/condition/accidents-injuries-and-poisonings/safety-in-the-home/button-batteries>

ENDS

For further information contact:

James Guthrie
Principal Media Officer, Rural and Remote Qld
Media and Communication
Department of Health
(07) 3708 5379
Jim.Guthrie@health.qld.gov.au



Electoral Commission QUEENSLAND

The 2024 local government elections will include elections for mayors and councillors in each of Queensland's 77 councils. Election day will be on Saturday, 16 March 2024.

Candidate nominations will open after the notice of election is issued by the Electoral Commission of Queensland (ECQ). If you are planning to nominate as a candidate in the 2024 local government elections, you should advise the ECQ via the Self Service Portal to ensure you receive important information in the meantime.



Enrol to vote in elections and referendums

Who needs to enrol

All Australian citizens aged 18 and over.

Remember to **update your details** if you have **changed your name** or **address**. If you are already enrolled to vote in elections, you don't need to enrol again for referendums.

We will keep your information **safe**.

How to enrol

Step 1 Have one of these forms of identity:

- Driver's licence
- Medicare card
- Someone enrolled who knows who you are
- Australian passport
- Australian Citizenship certificate

Step 2 Visit aec.gov.au to enrol or update your details online, or call **13 23 26** to request a paper enrolment form.

Enrol today
to have your say



SNAKES - STAY ALERT



It has come to Council's Attention that there are increasing numbers of sightings and incidences involving snakes in and around town.

If you are outdoors or working in your garden, please be mindful of your surroundings, especially when around overgrown grass or areas with large amounts of stick and leaves.

Overgrown properties are more likely to attract and/or shelter not only reptiles but other vermin, so if your yard is looking a little overgrown, please take the time to attend to it as soon as possible. Should you require assistance with this, Council is able to offer:

- The ability to hire a push lawn mower
- The ability to engage Council for fee to complete lawn mowing and whipper snipping services
- The ability to make an application for free Yard Maintenance Assistance (eligibility criteria apply)

Should you wish to utilise the above-mentioned services, or you would like to make an application for Yard Maintenance Assistance, or you need a snake removed (during opening hours), please contact the Council Administration Office on 4746 3188.

