



Pictured: Councillor Rob Chandler – Mayor

COUNCIL CONTACTS

All correspondence should be addressed to:

The Chief Executive Officer
Barcaldine Regional Council
PO Box 191
BARCALDINE QLD 4725

Email: council@barc.qld.gov.au

To contact the Mayor or the Chief Executive Officer, please phone: 07 4651 5621.

If you have any Emergency after hours, please phone: 0428 683 465.
Administration Offices (Monday to Friday 8.00am to 4.30pm):

- Alpha/Jericho – 07 4651 5680; Acting District Manager, Paula Coulton.
- Aramac/Muttaburra – 07 4651 5650; Acting District Manager, Amber Coulton.
- Barcaldine – 07 4651 5600; District Manager, Jenny Lawrence.

MAYORS MESSAGE

Welcome to this addition of the Galilee Gazette.

Good rain about albeit fairly light in places. Better falls to the Northern half of our area, moderate flood in the Thomson. Thanks to those across our region who kept me informed on river heights, roads etc during that time.

Keep your eye out on social media, Council website and this edition of the Gazette for the times and places to meet up with the Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Mayor and Councillors in your towns. There will be five groups, Three Councillor pairs, the CEO and myself. This is in line with our pledge to our residents and businesses that we will consult widely and regularly during this term. I realise these times are generally during 9 to 5, however if you would particularly like us to visit your business or drive your road, please request we do so.

Budget discussions will start in earnest from now on. We must build on the unrestricted cash balance whilst ensuring there is no reduction in community services. The community consultation between now and the middle of April will help shape the budget.

There is a community survey about to hit your letter boxes. I for one hate surveys so I understand if you want to throw this one in the bin – before you do – have a read. It's all about what you expect of us and what your priorities are for this term and into the future. It is your survey. They reckon 20% is a good percentage return. How about we fill it in and smash that figure, after all it is all about us as a region and it is very valuable information for your Councillors and Staff.

Keep well, safe and pray for rain.
Cheers Rob.

CONTACT US

BARCALDINE: 71 Ash Street | 07 4651 5600

www.barcaldinerc.qld.gov.au

ALPHA: 43 Dryden Street | 07 4651 5680

ARAMAC: 35 Gordon Street | 07 4651 5650

council@barc.qld.gov.au

JERICO: 8 Darwin Street | 07 4651 4129

MUTTABURRA: 20 Bruford Street | 07 4651 5654

PO Box 191, Barcaldine QLD 4725

DISCLAIMER: The information is believed to be accurate and reliable and it must be understood that no liability can be accepted for any error or omission.



OVERVIEW OF COUNCIL MEETING

Below is an update of the Council Meeting held on Wednesday 15 January 2025:

- Councillor Remuneration Review 2025-2026: That Council adopts the remuneration schedule as determined by the Local Government Remuneration and Discipline Tribunal in accordance with Section 244 of the Local Government Regulation 2012 from 1 July 2025.
- Policy Review – Investigation Policy: That Council adopts CG022 – Investigation Policy, replacing the previous versions.
- Regional Arts Development Fund Application: That Council accept the Committee recommendation to approve the application from the Alpha District Tourism Association Incorporated to the value of \$4,246.00 from the 2025/2026 Regional Arts Development Fund program.

Below is an update of the Council Meeting held on Wednesday 19 February 2025:

- An update was provided to Council on ongoing discussions with the owner of the Artesian Hotel in Barcaldine.
- Cleaning Contract – Public Amenities – Barcaldine: Awards the tender for Contract Number VP442333 to Camelot Enterprises for a three-year term with a two-year option from 1 April 2025 to 31 March 2028 for an annual amount of \$157,916.00 (GST inclusive).
- SCADA Rectification Works: Accepted the SCADA Rectification Works with the service hourly unit rates not the lump sum cost proposed by Three C's Contracting.
- Flood Damage Package 20 – Coreena: Accepted the Flood Damage Package 20 – Coreena tender application from The Trustee for Home Creek Pastoral with a price of \$353,241.31 (excluding GST).
- Policy Review: Adopts the following policies, replacing the previous versions: a. F022 – Internal Audit Charter. b. GO24 – Audit and Risk Committee Charter. c. F027 – Related Party Disclosure Policy. Rescind the following policies: d. F002 – Internal Audit Function. e. F003 – Audit Committee.

- Request for Assistance – Alpha Jockey Club: Agreed to support the Alpha Jockey Club with in-kind support for the Alpha races to be held on 28 June 2025 – to the value of \$20,000.
- Regional Arts Development Fund Application: Accepted the Committee recommendation to approve the application from The Silver Thimble Patchwork Group to the value of \$3,266 and no further applications received/funded until 1 July 2025.
- Drinking Water Quality Management Plan Annual Report: Received.
- Request for Assistance – Muttaborra Stock Show: Agreed agrees to support the Muttaborra Stock Show with in-kind support (only) to an estimated value of \$2,000.
- Change of Meeting Date for Budget Adoption: That the Budget Adoption Meeting be rescheduled to be held directly following the General Meeting scheduled for Wednesday 18 June 2025.
- Conference Attendance: Approved – Councillors Chandler and O'Brien and the Chief Executive Officer to attend the 2025 Civic Leaders Summit. Councillors Howard and Penna to attend the Small Business Friendly Conference 2025 and Councillors Chandler, Rogers, Williams and the Chief Executive Officer to attend the Australian Local Government Association National General Assembly.
- Chief Executive Officer Performance Plan: Endorsed.
- Country Universities Centre Memorandum of Understanding: Agreed to the terms of the Memorandum of Understanding between Barcaldine Regional Council and Country Universities Centre RAPAD Central Western Queensland.
- Quarter 2 Review – Annual Operational Plan: Received.

2025 GENERAL COUNCIL MEETINGS

At the October General Council Meeting, the dates for the General Council Meetings for 2025 were set as follows:

- Wednesday 19 March 2025 in Barcaldine
- Wednesday 16 April 2025 in Barcaldine
- Wednesday 28 May 2025 in Aramac
- Wednesday 18 June 2025 in Barcaldine including Budget Adoption
- Wednesday 16 July 2025 in Barcaldine
- Wednesday 20 August 2025 in Muttaborra
- Wednesday 10 September 2025 in Barcaldine
- Wednesday 15 October 2025 in Barcaldine
- Wednesday 19 November 2025 in Jericho
- Wednesday 10 December 2025 in Barcaldine.



2025 CITIZEN OF THE YEAR TRYPHENA BIDDULPH

2025 YOUNG CITIZEN OF THE YEAR PHOENIX LIMA

2025 VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR MEGAN COULTON

2025 COMMUNITY EVENT OF THE YEAR ALPHA RODEO 2024

2025 YOUNG SPORTSPERSON OF THE YEAR CHARLOTTE MCLEAN

2025 YOUNG CULTURAL PERSON OF THE YEAR HANNAH GRONOLD



AUSTRALIA DAY CELEBRATIONS

A huge congratulations to all the winners in their respective categories! We would also like to extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone who attended and supported the events across our region during Australia Day celebrations. A special thank you goes to all those who assisted with the setup, cooking and clean-up at each event. Finally, we are deeply grateful to our Ambassadors for their invaluable support and inspiring speeches at every occasion.



GALILEE GAZETTE

RURAL LANDS UPDATE

JAPANESE ENCEPHALITIS VIRUS



DETECTED IN PIGS IN QUEENSLAND

Japanese Encephalitis Virus (JEV) has been detected at two piggeries in southern Queensland. There have also been recent detections in New South Wales and Victoria.

JEV is a zoonotic disease spread by mosquitoes that can cause reproductive issues in pigs and neurological signs in horses; such as lack of coordination, difficulty swallowing and impaired vision.

These are the first detections of JEV in animals in Queensland since July 2022. JEV is considered established in mainland Australia, so the detections are not unexpected.

Biosecurity Queensland is urging all horse owners to take preventative action to prevent the spread of JEV, monitor susceptible animals for any signs of disease and report any suspected cases to your local veterinarian.

In rare cases, JEV can cause disease in humans. Reducing exposure to infected mosquitoes is the key to avoiding JEV for yourself and your animals.

Advice for horse owners

The Australian mosquito (*Culex Annulirostris*) that transmits Japanese Encephalitis feeds at night and is reluctant to enter dwellings, so stabling horses between dusk and dawn is beneficial.

Horse owners can put other measures in place to help their horses avoid mosquito bites– put a rug and fly mask on and if the horse allows, apply a safe insect repellent. Do not spray the repellent around or above their eyes.

More information scan the QR Code.



VARROA MITE IS ON

QUEENSLAND'S DOORSTEP

Beekeepers in southern Queensland are urged to regularly check their hives as Varroa Mite draws closer to the Queensland border.

The pest, which affects honeybees, has been detected around Boggabilla, Legume, Drake and Byron-Lismore regions in northern New South Wales.

Early detection of Varroa Mite will help us slow the spread through Queensland.

Beekeepers should closely monitor their hives and immediately report unusual signs (like deformed

bees or dead brood) by calling 13 25 23.

Development officers provide free support to recreational and commercial beekeepers and clubs.

Email: varroa@daf.qld.gov.au for more information. To keep up to date with varroa mite news in Queensland, subscribe to the bee e-alert.



COUNCIL'S SCALP BOUNTY PROGRAM (WILD DOGS)

Barcaldine Regional Council offers eligible applicants \$30.00 per scalp; male, female and pup scalps will receive the same payment rate.

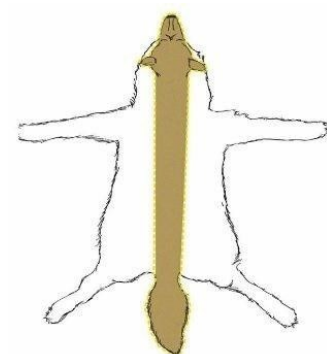
Dingo scalps bounty claims are only accepted at the Barcaldine Regional Council Works Depot **Monday – Thursday between 7am and 2pm**. Scalps cannot be accepted at Council's customer services counter. All dingo scalps must adhere to the appropriate presentation and preparation guidelines along with relevant paperwork (**bounty book and invoice**), failure to do so may result in refusal of claim. Scalps however will not be accepted during wet weather as council is unable to destroy them.



APPROPRIATE SCALP PRESENTATION AND PREPARATION

Dingo/wild dog scalps and skin pieces are to be provided to Council individually as described in the diagram below. The scalps should be:

- One whole single piece of skin and fur from the snout; including the ears, along the dingo/wild dog back to the tail.
- Air dried, frozen or fresh and preserved in a manner that allows for identification (i.e. flat).
- No frozen blocks of scalps or rotting scalps will be accepted.
- Scalps submitted in batches must be separated individually for identification and counting.



Council reserves the right to reject material submitted for the bounty if it does not meet the specified conditions.



ARE YOU BETTER THAN THE AVERAGE DRONE FLYER?

The Civil Aviation Safety Authority are pleased to announce the launch of their CASA annual summer drone safety campaign, Know Your Drone. As one of Australia's estimated 3 million recreational drone users, it's important you're aware of your responsibilities when it comes to flying safely. Take up the challenge by testing your knowledge of drone safety rules with our Know Your Drone quiz. More than 9,000 drone flyers have already taken the drone safety quiz, with the average drone flyer scoring 8 out of 11 rules correct. Are you up for the challenge? Scan the QR code above!

Stay safe with CASA-verified drone safety app

CASA-verified drone safety apps can help you stay a safe distance from airports, helicopter landing sites and restricted or danger areas. The apps use location-based maps to show where you can and can't fly your drone. Remember, you must also follow the drone safety rules at all times.

Drone safety tips for major events

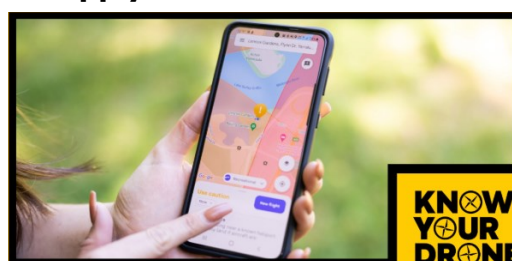
With a busy calendar of major outdoor events over the summer, it's more important than ever to help keep everyone safe both on the ground and in the air. Following the drone safety rules is crucial. More information on [Drone safety apps | Civil Aviation Safety Authority](#) website.

Populous areas are off limits

Remember, you must not fly in populous areas like festivals, concerts or sporting events. Keep your distance, at least 30 metres from others and never fly above people. The airspace at these events can be busy, so ensure your drone doesn't pose a risk to other aircraft or property. Major event venues may be in restricted areas, so operating in these types of locations is unsafe and may lead to penalties. It's best to leave your drone at home during these events and staying grounded to enjoy the atmosphere.

Night flying rules apply

If you want to fly a drone at night, there are rules and requirements that apply to nighttime



flying. You will need a remotely piloted aircraft operator's certificate and a remote pilot licence. So, it's best to leave it to the professionals and hire a licensed and certified operator to capture those nighttime shots.

Commercial filming and photography

If you use a drone for commercial purposes, such as filming or photographing major events on behalf of a business or to generate income, you must have an operator accreditation certificate or a remote pilot licence (an operator on behalf of a business or individual who has a remotely piloted aircraft operator's certificate). These credentials mean you have the training and knowledge to fly safely in these environments. Remember, your drone must also be registered, regardless of the service you provide or its weight.



Back-to-school

Are you a teacher or education provider gearing up for the new school year? Explore our engaging classroom resources aligned with the Australian Curriculum to teach STEM and drone safety. Enjoy interactive quizzes, animated videos and lesson plans for primary and secondary students.

Plain English Guide

The updated Part 101 Plain English Guide is here. If you are flying a drone for fun, this guide will help you. It breaks down the drone safety rules into straightforward language, includes easy-to-understand diagrams, and shares practical tips to enhance your flying experience.

GALILEE GAZETTE

REGIONAL NEWS

STAR DOWNS ROAD SEALING

Council has recently sealed 3km of the Star Downs road. This project was funded through the Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program Round 4. The second seal is to be completed in the coming weeks. Council is dedicated to improving road safety in our region.



ALPHA SCHOOL FOOTPATH

The Alpha State School zebra crossing/footpath project was funded by Barcaldine Regional Council and the Department of Transport and Main Roads. The zebra crossing increases the safety for pedestrians crossing in the school zone, as well as increasing accessibility for people of all ages. The new curbing helps to define the crossing area clearly, making it more visible for drivers and ensures cars cannot park in the marked areas. Council is proud to be apart of this project and continues to help our communities where we can.



THANK YOU TO THE SES TEAMS

On Thursday, February 6, four members of the Aramac SES Group traveled to Townsville to assist with storm and flooding callouts as part of Task Force Delta. The team worked on sandbagging, tarping roofs, and conducting reconnaissance. One member also helped with vehicle refueling and logistics at the staging area. Originally scheduled for a 1-3-1 rotation, the team adjusted to a 1-4-1 rotation due to flight delays. During the extra day, they volunteered at the main staging area, assisting with catering, refueling, and stock taking. Aramac was the only team from the Longreach area on this task force. Their dedication earned positive feedback.

A big thank you to Lloyd Powell, Matthew Wheeler, Casey Meyers, and Rodney Carter for putting their personal lives on hold to assist, and to the Barcaldine Regional Council for supporting their involvement.

RECORD BREAKERS

The Australian Book of Records travelled down to the central west late last year to count snow globes through all five communities in our region. Sharon at Alpha Bank of Queensland received a certificate in honour of the new record, The Largest Community Collection of Snow Globes. Our communities made a massive 356 home made snow globes and Sharon put each one of them on display beautifully. CONGRATULATIONS SHARON!!



BARCALTINE SKATE PARK

Council seeks the co-operation from members of the Community wishing to use the skate park to ensure that the rules of use are adhered to:

- 1) Appropriate safety equipment must be worn at all times (e.g. helmet).
- 2) Children under 8 years of age must have adult supervision.
- 3) Skateboards, roller skates, in-line blades, scooters and push bikes **ONLY** are to be used on the facility.
- 4) Riders must only use that part of the facility designed for their skill and experience levels.
- 5) Any accidents, injuries or damage must be reported to Barcaldine Regional Council on 0428 683 465.
- 6) Event organisers must seek Council approval prior to staging activities on the facility.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact the Barcaldine Administration Office on 4651 5600 during office hours.

VENUE AND EQUIPMENT HIRE – BARCADDINE

Council would like to remind Barcaldine residents, if you wish to avail yourself of the use of a Council venue or equipment, **a booking form is required** to be completed, lodged and the relevant bond paid.

Venues:

- Showground – oval, bbq area, grandstand facilities, Ken Wilson pavilion, racecourse (sheep pavilion, bookies area and kitchen), general land or grassed areas, dressing rooms, broadcast box or Campdraft/rodeo facilities
- Town Hall – hall, supper room or kitchen
- Village Green (public place activity or Roadside Vending Application is also required)
- The Globe – Galilee Gallery
- Barcy Rec Park (Ski Park)

Equipment:

- Tables and/or chairs
- BBQ trailer (no gas bottle)
- Qantaslink marquee
- Sheep or cattle panels
- Portable stage.

Details of Council venues and equipment available for hire is listed on the Hire Form available on Council's website: www.barcaldinerc.qld.gov.au or by contacting the Barcaldine Administration Office. If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact bookings Officer Sonia Waller at the Barcaldine Administration Office on 4651 5600.



BOQ TREE OF KNOWLEDGE FESTIVAL CHANGE

Any community groups or business houses requiring change for the Barcaldine Tree of Knowledge Festival are requested to have their orders placed with Rachael at BOQ by Friday 4 April 2025.

Thanking you for your co-operation and if you have any queries please contact Rachael on 4651 1566.

BARCADDINE SHOWGROUND – CAMPING

Camping at the Barcaldine Showground reopened on 1 February 2025. A maximum three night stay is permitted and other conditions do apply-including no fires. Fees are applicable and can be paid online (scan the special QR Camping Code upon entry at the ticket box, which will take you directly to the booking site, enter your details and make payment) or in person at the Barcaldine Visitor Information Centre.

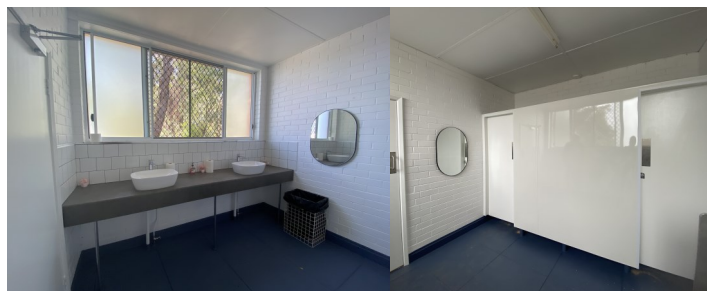
ARAMAC TOWN FENCING AND CATTLE YARD UPGRADE

Exciting developments are underway with the Aramac town fencing and cattle yard upgrade, set to be completed by early April 2025. This important project is aimed at enhancing the efficiency and safety of the town's cattle yards and surrounding fencing, providing better facilities for the local farming and livestock community.

Once finished, these upgrades will help streamline operations and support the agricultural industry in the area. Stay tuned for more updates as we approach the completion date!

ARAMAC TOWN HALL UPGRADE

The Aramac Town Hall has recently completed a major upgrade to its men's and women's facilities. The improvements ensure greater comfort and convenience for everyone using the space; whether for community events, meetings or other activities. These enhancements reflect the town's dedication to providing quality facilities for all its residents.



We look forward to seeing these updated facilities in use and encourage the community to take full advantage of the upgraded amenities.

GALILEE GAZETTE

MUTTABURRA TOWN HALL UPGRADE

The Muttaborra Town Hall has undergone significant improvements, ensuring it remains a vibrant hub for local events and activities. The upgrade includes the installation of a brand-new stove, offering modern cooking facilities for various community gatherings. Additionally, new windows have been fitted, brightening up the space and improving energy efficiency.

Floor maintenance was also completed, ensuring a safe and polished environment for visitors. These upgrades are a testament to the ongoing commitment to enhancing the town's facilities, making the Town Hall an even more welcoming space for everyone.

Stay tuned for more updates and upcoming events at the Town Hall!



ARAMAC AND MUTTABURRA ROAD UPDATES

Council staff are currently completing medium formation grading and flood damage grading on the Ilfracombe – Aramac Road.



Slashing will commence on Cramsie, Hughenden, Muttaborra and Eastmere Roads.

Weather permitting, the flood damage works on Oakvale Road will begin once its dries out.



Flood damage works are commencing on the Eastmere Road, this will include heavy formation grading including gravel.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Saturday 1 March 2025:** Barcaldine Ball
- **Sunday 2 March 2025:** Clean up Australia Day
- **Saturday 8 March 2025:** Barcaldine races
- **Wednesday 19 March 2025:** Council Meeting – Barcaldine
- **Saturday 22 March 2025:** Hoy and Cent Sale Uniting Church– Alpha
- **Saturday 29 March 2025:** Autumn Markets Alpha
- **Sunday 30 March 2025:** Mini train rides – Barcaldine
- **Tuesday 1 April 2025:** Funny Mummies Cabaret Spectacular– Barcaldine
- **Saturday 12 April 2025:** Barcaldine Bowls Easter Fair
- **Wednesday 16 April 2025:** Council Meeting– Barcaldine
- **Friday 18 April 2025:** Alpha Rodeo
- **Friday 2 May 2025:** Barcaldine Tree of Knowledge Festival 2025
- **Tuesday 20 May 2025:** Alpha Show
- **Wednesday 21 May 2025:** Alpha Show Holiday
- **Wednesday 28 May 2025:** Council Meeting– Aramac
- **Friday 30 May 2025:** Crawchie Pot Concert– Barcaldine



EVENTS AROUND THE REGION



Free Sausage Sizzle

JOIN US FOR

CLEAN UP AUSTRALIA DAY

2nd March 2025

7:00AM AT ROB CHANDLER PARK
CNR ASH AND BEECH STREETS



LET'S CLEAN UP 2025

AUSTRALIA

OUR BIGGEST EVER CLEAN UP



MUTTABURRA

EVENT: MUTTABURRA CLEAN UP AUSTRALIA DAY AND SMOKO AT THE SHOP
LOCATION: MUTTABURRA MEMORIAL HALL, BRUFORD STREET
WHEN: SUNDAY 2 MARCH 2025 FROM 7.00AM TO 9.00AM
CONTACT: BARCALTINE REGIONAL COUNCIL, MUTTABURRA LIBRARY AND OFFICE - 07 4651 5654



LET'S CLEAN UP 2025

AUSTRALIA

OUR BIGGEST EVER CLEAN UP



ARAMAC

EVENT: ARAMAC CLEAN UP AUSTRALIA DAY AND FREE SAUSAGE SIZZLE
LOCATION: ARAMAC SHOWGROUND, BOOKER STREET
WHEN: SUNDAY 2 MARCH 2025 FROM 5.30PM TO 6.30PM
CONTACT: BARCALTINE REGIONAL COUNCIL, ARAMAC ADMINISTRATION OFFICE - 07 4651 5650



CLEAN UP AUSTRALIA DAY

EVERYONE WELCOME

BBQ AVAILABLE AFTER

keep our communities clean



2ND OF MARCH | SETTLERS PARK 7AM



THE FUNNY MUMMIES

CABARET SPECTACULAR

JENNY WYNTER & SPECIAL GUESTS!

BARCALTINE 1 APR




DRIVE THE FIVE FOR FIVE • DRIVE THE FIVE FOR FIVE

IN 2025

VISIT FIVE TOWNS IN 2025

TO BE IN TO WIN!

- ALPHA - Gateway to the West
- JERICO - The Chrystal Trumpeters
- BARCALTINE - The Tree of Knowledge
- ARAMAC - The White Bull
- MUTTABURRA - The Muttaborrasaurus

Competition runs from January to May 2025.
Closing date 31st May 2025. Winners announced on Friday 13th June 2025.
To enter, collect a stamp from visiting all 5 towns.
WIN ONE OF 5 X \$500 PRIZES

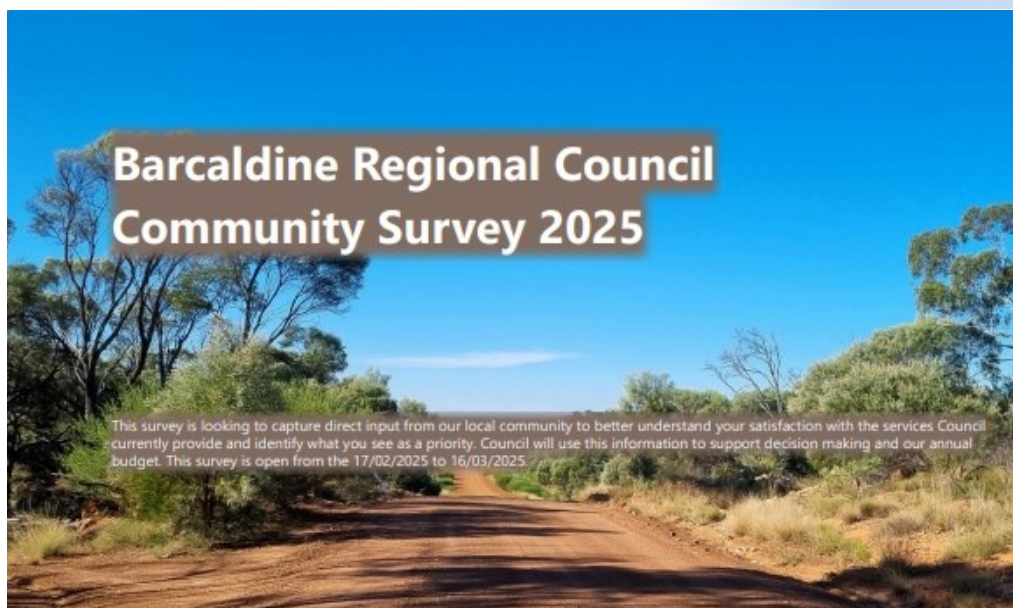
You are our Travel Ambassadors!

www.barcaldinerc.qld.gov.au/news-updates

ALPHA JERICO BARCALTINE ARAMAC MUTTABURRA

FUNNY MUMMIES— CABARET SPECTACULAR

Looking for the perfect ladies night out activity? Look no further! Barcaldine presents a show by mummies for mummies, with a cabaret style comedy show starring Jenny Wynter and special guests. Get your tickets now: scan the QR code or head to <https://www.trybooking.com/CYFZY>



HAVE YOUR SAY – BARCOLDINE REGIONAL COUNCIL COMMUNITY SURVEY 2025

Council is committed to community engagement and is seeking your feedback on council services. The community survey is a chance for all residents to tell us what is important to you and your town.

This survey is looking to capture direct input from our local community to better understand your satisfaction with the services Council currently provide and identify what you see as a priority. Council will use this information to support decision making and annual budget.

In the survey we do ask customers to indicate if they would like to receive some Council communication via email. Some community members may elect not to provide their email address in the survey to keep it confidential and they may ring through or present to the Council office to record their information separate to the survey.

We are interested in hearing about your local issues and concerns.

As members of the community, we encourage you all to take a few minutes to complete the survey. Also, we would encourage you to share with friends and family to complete the survey as well.

A hard copy have been sent out though the mail.

Alternatively hard copies of the survey will be available at all local Council offices and online at <https://forms.office.com/r/CkTfhRR8ds>

Please return survey forms to–

- In person– at your local Council office
- Mail– PO Box 191, Barcaldine Q 4725.

This survey is open from the 17 February to 16 March 2025.

If you have any questions, please contact your local Council office.