# Central Darling Shire Council

#### Message from the ADMINISTRATOR - Bob Stewart

Special legislation has passed the NSW Parliament which means the government's new model for Central Darling Shire will become a reality. The Council will go to an election under this new model. Moving forward Council will be working with the Local Government Minister and Local Member on the implementation process.

In the last week of August, Council hosted two staff from the Office of Local Government. We visited White Cliffs, Wilcannia, Menindee and Ivanhoe to provide the opportunity for residents to ask further questions on the legislation and process to bring Central Darling out of administration.

During these discussions with residents, there was interest in the election and the process of nominating for Council.

The Office of Local Government on their webpage site has a

wealth of information for intending Councilors. Links to information is also on Council's website. Council will be putting in place seminars for intending candidates. This information will be rolled out once we have an election date

It is also important that all eligible voters ensure they are registered with the NSW Electoral Commission.

Regards Bob Stewart.

### White Cliffs Caravan Park appointment

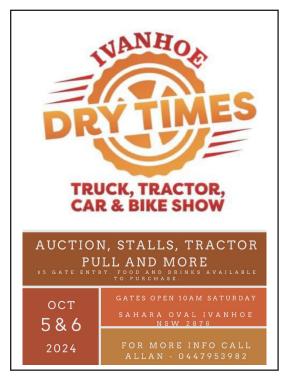
An Expression of Interest for the White Cliffs Caretaker position was advertised in July. Three applications were received. Two applicants were interviewed by the General Manager and members of the White Cliffs Community Association. Deborah Robins was the preferred candidate and accepted the contract. The contract commences on 1 October for a period of 12 months with an option to renew further for another 12 months, on satisfactory performance. Also commencing on the 1 October will be an online booking

system. The same system, RMS, is currently being used for Victory Caravan Park. The reason for an online booking system is to limit cash handling and reduce the

need for a caretaker to be on-site for extended periods. White Cliffs Caravan Park is owned by Council,



however, is managed by the White Cliffs Community Association.



## Wilcannia Weir update

The Department of Planning and Environment (Water) communicated some months ago that an independent review of the original design of the Wilcannia weir would commence. Several names were recommended



to the department by the community to form membership of the Independent Review Panel. Council understands, from recent communications with the Water Minister's Office, that negotiations are in progress with potential candidates and no decision has been made on the appointments to the Independent Review Panel.



# Central Darling Shire Council

### Ivanhoe Licensed Post Office will continue

Central Darling Shire Council has welcomed news from Australia Post that it will be providing the necessary financial help to enable Council to continue to ensure that a Licensed Post Office will continue in Ivanhoe.

The remote township of Ivanhoe is home to approximately 196 people. The town's Post Office has been for sale for the past two years and unfortunately no buyer has been found. Australia Post has subsequently been in discussions with Council to provide the service once the post office closes its doors. Council was not in a position to enter into a contractual



The General Manager recently attended a public hearing for the review of the NSW Reconstruction Authority Act 2022, via video link. The General Manager provided information of the challenges the shire faces with the geographical area it covers, low population density and low socio-economic community that the Council supports. The General Manager also told the hearing about the difficulties with the February 2024 **Natural Disaster Declaration** in regard to getting financial assistance



agreement with Australia Post to retain Postal services unless financial assistance was provided to implement minor infrastructure and security requirements needed to fulfill the contract. This assistance has now been assured by Australia Post.

The Ivanhoe Licensed Post Office will be operated from the Council office, utilising existing facilities and staff. It was not

#### **Baaka Cultural Centre**

Another milestone has been reached in the development of the Baaka Cultural and Art Centre with the announcement of the successful tender for the Ellipse Permanent Exhibition. Regional Development Australia Orana, CEO Justine Campbell said she was excited to announce that interpretive design specialist Multistory, led by Creative Director Scott Watson had been appointed to undertake the project. The ellipse permanent exhibition will be at the heart of the centre and will tell the story of the local Aboriginal people.

viable for Council to purchase an additional building to host the postal services, as this would incur additional costs in building operations and maintenance. There will be no interruption to mail services or delivery at Ivanhoe during the changeover. The services provided will include banking via Bank@Post, bill payment, postage and mail delivery services. There may be a minor delay in providing electronic over the counter transactions during the transition phase as security will need to be upgraded. The postal service will commence from the Ivanhoe Council building on Wednesday, 9 October, 2024.



### Nominations called for Outstanding Community Service Awards

Nominations are open for the Central Darling Shire Outstanding Community Service Awards.

The Outstanding Community
Service Awards recognise
Central Darling Shire
residents who have made a
significant contribution to the
Shire and its community.
The community benefits
greatly from the contributions
of our residents and
volunteers who work to

improve the lives of others and make Central Darling Shire a better place to live. Each year these awards provide an opportunity to acknowledge the contributions of outstanding residents by publicly thanking them in a spirit of community pride.

Nomination forms are available at Council offices. You can also nominate online via Council's website.

• Categories
• Citizen of the Year
• Young Citizen of the Year
(aged 17 and under in 2024)
• Service to the Community
(this could include bravery, local business, environment etc.)
• Volunteer of the Year
• Outstanding Local Event (2024)