



# Walgett Shire Council

ABN 88 769 076 385

## MEDIA RELEASE

### RADIO

- ABC Western Plains
- ABC New England
- ABC National
- 2WEB
- NOW FM/2VM
- Opal FM

### PRINT MEDIA

- \*\* Walgett Spectator
- Mungindi Matters
- Daily Liberal – Dubbo
- Western Magazine
- North West Magazine
- Sydney Morning Herald

### TV

- Prime (Dubbo)
- WIN (Dubbo)
- Southern Cross 10
- Imparja
- NBN

**DATE: 29/3/2022**

**EMBARGO:**

## Walgett Shire communities celebrate & engage in recognition initiatives & events.

Community members, school children, dignitaries and service providers have been engaged in a series of community opportunities, engagement activities and events across the Shire over the past few months. Following on from a very successful Australia Day program Council teams have delivered events and celebrations across all larger communities. The “*Love where you Live*” initiatives have engaged hundreds of residents and visitors across our Shire. The program developed & delivered through successful funding to “recognize resilience of community and its residents throughout the challenging times of drought, floods and the on-going COVID pandemic” offered communities a chance to re-connect socially and businesses throughout the Shire increased their customer intake.

A series of 12 free pool days across communities, BBQs, fun filled activities, prizes and free entry engaged many families and friends, creating fun and social connection. Supporting these events Council partnered with numerous cafes and coffee shops across communities offering free refreshments as part of the “Feel Good Friday” initiatives. With many families, kids and grandparents involved and engaged in the Love Where You Live Initiative it has proven successful in encouraging and creating opportunities for residents to get active and celebrate loving where we live.

- **Series of “*Love Where you Live*” interaction with community**



International Women’s Day 2022 has been celebrated and acknowledged across our vast Shire with three large scale events delivered in our larger communities of Lightning Ridge, Walgett and Collarenebri. Council initiated working groups to collaborate and deliver these events to the women across our Shire. Events were hosted at the Walgett PCYC, HACC Centre Lightning Ridge and Red Shed in Collarenebri.

Attendance of 247 women demonstrates that these events are well received by the amazing Women across our Shire. The working groups in each community are thanked for their continued support in delivery of events like this. Supporters / partners included Mission Australia, Walgett Hospital, PCYC Walgett, Family Planning NSW, Mackillop NSW, Outback Division of General Practice, M.B. Designs and Walgett Aboriginal Medical Services. Planning for IWD 2023 has already begun!

Manager Community Development *Mr George McCormick* said. “These events created opportunities to build capacity, engage, inform, celebrate and recognise our residents and community groups celebrating as one.

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Walgett Shire Council's community development team continue to advocate the forming of the "community working groups" model to offer services and agencies input into what is delivered to community.

Larger scale events including Youth Week 22, Reconciliation Week 22 and Families Week are soon to be on the radar so Council encourages services and agencies to contact organisers and work together for best practice outcomes.

Walgett Shire General Manager, *Mr Mike Urquhart* said. "We encourage as many services as possible to become involved for the benefit of community. Collaboration and community wellbeing is the focus and these events create opportunities to build capacity, engage, inform, celebrate and recognise our residents and community groups.

- ***Pictures of International Women's Day participation across communities.***



***For further information please contact***

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