

June 2021

# -oreword

It is said about the Walgett grey clay soil that "if you stick to it in the dry, it'll stick to you in the wet". Nothing is truer at the moment. Walgett is the epicentre of this current drought. However, our community remains strong and focused on the future. Resilience and working together, while being proud and friendly, is in our veins.

Where else in Australia can you go to the Newsagent, have a great coffee with gourmet food in a Secret Garden, then buy fishing gear, a gun, the newspaper, kid's toys and a birthday card all at the one spot? Where else does a drought-stricken community pull together and raise \$200,000 for a sick toddler? Where else does the Show Society and community put on its biggest and best show EVER after seven years of drought, when neighbouring shows are being cancelled?

We are the gateway to the only black Opal Mine? in the world. David Bowie made a music video in one of our pubs! We sit at the joining of the Barwon and Namoi Rivers as they make their way to the Great Australian Bight. We have some of the best fishing in the world, and the most picturesque ski holes in the country. All of this is over-looked by Scar Trees and other Aboriginal artefacts that are hundreds of years old. Did you know that Baiame, the Aboriginal creator of God was born here, between Lightning Ridge and the Narran Lake? Speaking of the lake, did you know when the Narran is dry they grow wheat, chickpeas and sorghum on it? Or that our grain goes into the Walgett Silos which is the largest silo complex in the Southern Hemisphere?

We are important too! The Northern International flight beacon is located here. We have a diverse community; almost 50% of us are of Aboriginal heritage. 60% of us are aged under 45! Having such a diverse community means we have access to a wide range of local and visiting medical specialists. Helping us to avoid travelling huge distances and waiting times. Our population has dropped from 2300 to 1700 in the last five years, but we can guarantee every one of them is proud and pleased to live in Walgett.

Some people say it cannot be done, but it can be done in Walgett. And it will be done. Afterall, what other town has had to re-build their supermarket twice due to fire in five years? We are proud of our town, but to the wider public, Walgett is shadowed by a reputation it gained in the 1980s. Walgett became a town that was dangerous, boarded up and to be driven through quickly. We want to change this perception. We want to highlight our long and diverse history. If we are able to showcase Walgett and ALL it has to offer, we can encourage people to stop and stay a while. To spend tourist dollars in our town. Tourism will support our economy and is not dependent on the weather. Tourism helps keep our resources both built and natural or future generations.

We want friends, family, visitors and newcomers to join us for Sunday Sippers at the Sporting Club after Barefoot Bowls for years to come!

# Acknowledgements



The formulation of this Community Development Plan was initiated and funded by Rural Aid as part of their 'Ten Towns' Makeover Initiative, of which Walgett was a winner. Facilitation of the community engagement process and preparation of this Community Development Plan as undertaken by Peter Kenyon from the Bank of I.D.E.A.S. and assisted by Jen Curnow-Trotter and Grant Miskimmin from Rural Aid. It was coordinated by passionate locals Denielle Smith, Christine Ford and Alana Douglas. Special thanks to so many committed Walgett community members who gave so generously of their time, knowledge, and experiences.



PROUDLY BROUGHT TO YOU BY Finally, this Action Plan respectfully acknowledges the Gamilaroi, Yuwaalaraay, Waiylwon **HOLDMARK** and Ngemba Nations within the Shire of Walgett and their significant contribution to our community past, present, and future.





The northern NSW community of Walgett is a significant and vast pastoral and farming district which stretches to the Queensland border. It is located 640 kms by road from Sydney at the junction of the Kamilaroi and Castlereagh Highways, and situated at the confluence of the Barwon and Namoi Rivers. With a current population estimated at 1700 persons, it is the administrative base for the Walgett Shire and its overall population of 6100 residents.

Prior to non- Indigenous settlement beginning from the 1840s, the Walgett district was inhabited by the Gamilaroi, Yuwaalaraay, Waiylwon and Ngemba Nations. A post office was gazetted in 1851, town surveyed in 1859 and the railway arrived in 1908. The town's boom years were the latter 1880s when the town of Walgett was the highest navigable point on the Barwon and known as 'the key to the back country'.

Walgett is located on the productive black soil plains of NSW, with agriculture being the primary industry of the district with a heavy reliance on dryland farming and grazing. It has a reputation for its wool, beef cattle, chickpeas, barley, fat lambs, sheep production, cotton, canola and wheat. 1.5 million hectares of crops are grown in the shire. Walgett is the home to largest silo grain silo complex in the Southern Hemisphere.

The Walgett Aboriginal Medical service and Walgett Shire Council are the two significant employers in the town. The town also serves as the 'Gateway to the Opal Fields' being on the key entry road to the Lightning Ridge, Grawin, Glengarry and Sheepyard Opal Fields. Its riverside location makes it a popular fishing destination, especially for Murray Cod and Yellowbelly. Tourism is an emerging and significant industry sector for the community.

Our community is at the mercy of the climatic seasons. This in turn impacts our business opportunities, population & overall social and economic conditions. Our community retains its strong sense of pride in its diverse heritage, stunning landscapes, and contribution to the national economy.

# Our Vision

The town of Walgett strives to promote and improve quality of life; enhancing a sense of community, and preserving the integrity of our small-town identity and heritage. Community participation and collaboration from our citizens is encouraged.

We seek sustainable growth that protects our natural and historic resources.

We are committed to fostering respect, values, hospitability and culture.

# Our Goals

Community Goals are broad statements of intent that direct our efforts towards accomplishing our vision in line with our guiding principles.

Below are the seven community goals which guide our community aspirations, namely -

- To retain families in the shire by continually strengthening our livable rural lifestyle and local employment opportunities.
- To achieve and retain water security for our township and district farming properties.
- To create new economic and entrepreneurial opportunities that enhance and diversify our local economy.
- To actively promote and showcase our community as a great place to stop, stay, experience, and reside, especially through a vibrant and welcoming town centre.
- To support, promote and celebrate active community participation and volunteerism.
- To retain strong sporting and cultural clubs, competitions, facilities, and traditions.
- To facilitate opportunities and experiences that build upon local assets and the capacities and creativity of all community members.



# Our Guiding Principles

The following six guiding values and attitudes provide the context for our community's identified actions and initiatives:

- Community Pride and Connection
- ensuring all residents experience community connection, inclusion, and a sense of pride in our history, uniqueness, achievements, structures, and future.
- Mutual Respect striving for community relationships built on integrity, understanding and acknowledgement of each member's unique gifts and contributions.
- Collaboration appreciating community and stakeholder involvement, partnerships, collective action, volunteerism, and active citizenship.
- Positivity and opportunism encouraging and supporting all community residents to see and experience success.
- **Resilience** maintaining attitudes and behaviours to deal with adversity and change.
- Respect for Heritage and Environment valuing our Indigenous and non-Indigenous heritage and culture, and our unique natural and built environment.



# Our Challenges

Like many small inland rural communities, our community faces, and needs to respond creatively to, a series of demographic, social, economic, and environmental challenges. A prolonged drought period has had a devastating impact on the economy, population and business base. The population base has declined from 2300 to 1700 in the last five years. The drought has exhausted community members. The town has also been consistently ranked as one of the most socially disadvantaged areas in NSW.

Our residents identified the following as priority issues that cannot be ignored, and require creative community responses:

- An ageing and declining population, contributing to the weakening of social networks and community cohesion.
- Water security; high economic and employment dependence on agriculture and water availability.
- Two river systems with different water regulations and filtered drinking water.
- Volunteer fatigue, declining numbers and dependence on a few proactive community members.
- Loss of service clubs e.g. Lions, Rotary.
- Community appearance; bland look of main street and lack of appeal.
- · Tired signage.
- Tourism challenges; seasonal nature and limited tourist product.
- Business loss and service gaps.
- Massive shortage of childcare options.
- Levels of intergenerational poverty.
- Cultural divisions that contribute to community fragmentation.
- Poor education and employment outcomes for many young people.
- Limited local employment opportunities.

- High summer temperatures.
- Lack of collaboration and integration across human service providers, and service duplication.
- Attraction and retention of suitably qualified staff.
- High government department staff turnover.
- The cycle of intergenerational trauma and unemployment.
- High levels of drug, alcohol, and gambling addiction.
- High levels of domestic violence and mental health issues.
- Limited opening hours at the youth centre, swimming pool and bore bath
- Lack of a Youth Safe House, detox, and rehabilitation facilities.
- Limited after-hours youth recreation activities.
- Negative media exposure.
- Lack of rental accommodation.
- Lack of community appreciation for the importance of agriculture.
- Proximity of larger regional centres that act as 'Sponge Towns' drawing services and employment.

# Our Assets

#### **Social Networks**

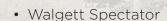
- Walgett CWA 63 members. Provides a medical study grant scheme.
- North West Plains Sustainability Group.
- Men's shed.
- Walgett.net website with event's calendar and business directory.
- Aboriginal Language Group.
- Walgett District Sporting Club.
- Sports- tennis, jockey club, swimming, rugby union, bowls, aero club, golf
- Walgett Historical Society & Walgett Masonic Lodge and Museum.
- St Mary's Catholic Church and resident priest.
- St Peter's Anglican Church and Reverend.

#### **Economic**

- Agricultural industries cotton, wool, grazing, cereals
- Opal mining opal fields throughout district.
- RDA Orana
- Cotton Research and Development Group.
- Cotton Australia
- Home to the largest temporary wheat storage facility in the Southern Hemisphere.
- Accommodation 3 motels, hotel, B & B, primitive Caravan Park.
- Retai I- pharmacy, dental, vet, banks, butcher, accountancy, restaurants, supermarket, petrol roadhouses, newsagency, camping, post office.
- Services security, solicitors, accountant, insurance broker, machinery hire, agri services, electrician, conveyancing, tyre service, taxi, auto electrician, freight.
- Artesian Bore Water Users Association

### **Physical**

- River town- location on the Barwon and Namoi Rivers.
- Productive soils.
- Location- Junction of the Kamilaroi and Castlereagh Highways.
- Stunning unique environment and landscapes.
- Fishing on the Barwon and Namoi Rivers-Murray Cod, Golden Perch, Silver Perch, River Yabbie, Freshwater Catfish, Bony Bream and European Carp.
- Smaller satellite towns- Collarenebri, Burren Junction, Carinda, Rowena, Cumborah, Cryon, Come by Chance, Glengarry, Pokataroo, and Sheepyards.
- · Tracker Walford Walkway.
- 8.2km Levee Bank first permanent levee bank in Australia.
- · Prolific birdlife.
- Proximity to Lightning Ridge and the opal fields at Grawin, Glengarry and Sheepyard.
- · Narran Lakes.
- Walgett Hot Artesian Bore Bath. Swimming Pool.
- Spectacular sunrises and sunsets.
- Apex Park, War Memorial Park, Gray Park and Alex Trevallion Park.
- · Community Garden.
- · Showground.



- NSW Farmers
- School to Work Program
- Walgett Visitor Information Centre.
- Recreational fishing.
- 9 dining outs.
- · Kangaroo and wild boar meat works.
- Location on Tourist routes- Great Inland Way, Great Artesian Drive, Darling River Run, Kamilaroi Highway

# Our Assets

#### **Institutions**

- Seat of the Walgett Shire Council.
- Walgett Community College.
- TAFE NSW branch.
- NSW DPI.
- NSW Police.
- Walgett Aboriginal Medical Service with 100 staff, 4 doctors, dental service and 4 doctors.
- · Rural and Remote GP Service.
- Walgett Multipurpose Service with Hospital.
- Walgett Primary Preschool
- St Joseph's Catholic Primary School
- School of Distance Education.
- Emergency- Fire, Ambulance, State Emergency
- · National Parks & Wildlife.
- LLS & Narran Lake Management
- Aboriginal legal Service.
- · Aboriginal Land Council.
- Ngangana Aboriginal Home Care.
- Thiyama-Li Family Violence Service.
- BEST Employment ltd.
- Big Sky Libraries.
- Mission Australia. Centacare. Mackillop. Joblink Plus.
- · Centrelink.
- · Goonimoo Mobile Children's Services.
- North West Local Land Services

# **Culture, Stories & Sources of Pride**

- Walgett District Society and Shownational reputation.
- N W Community Arts and Culture Hub.
- Indigenous culture and heritage.
- Jimmy Little Australia's first highly successful musician, national treasure and Walgett resident.
   Memorial mural on water tower celebrating his life.
- Jimmy Little scholarships /art grants.
- Dharriwaa Elders Group Cultural Exhibition Centre and its extensive collections.
- Heritage structures- courthouse. War Memorial Monument.
- · Walgett Historical Museum.
- "Gateway to the Opal Fields"
- Walgett Library.
- 5 district horse race meetings.
- Walgett Bulldust to Bitumen Festival.
- Walgett Charity Bushman's Festival.
- Frederick York Wolseley and the invention of the world's first successful shearing machine.
- · Origins of the Freedom Rides.
- Connection to Mary O'Brien and her aviation feats.
- Don Lillyman Aboriginal Art Gallery.
- Links to prominent poets/authors and their works- Banjo Patterson, Katherine Susannah Pritchard, Patrick White
- Council Heritage Adviser and grant program

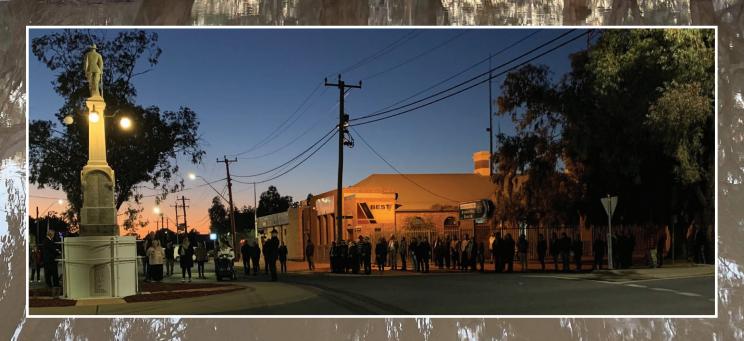
## People

- Dharriwaa Elders Group
- · Women in Cotton
- PCYC. Council Youth Centre.
- · Knitting group. Garden Group.
- Walgett Community Development and Reconciliation Plan
- Crime Prevention and Community Safety Plan

- · Vacation Care.
- · Partnerships with Universities.
- Local artists Arts Group with 25 members.
- · New Youth Diversion Program.
- · Youth Council.
- · Women's Refuge.
- Isolated Children's Parent's Association







#### **Theme One**

## Walgett Community Development Assoc'n Creation

### **ACTIONS**

- 1. Convene a Steering Committee from interested groups and passionate residents to formulate a process and plan to establish the Walgett Community Development Association (WCDA) to
  - Inform the community of Walgett about issues that may impact on the town of Walgett.
  - Facilitate discussion on issues and communicate the collective view of members to all levels of government and other stakeholders on issues that may impact on the town of Walgett.
  - Promote, support or coordinate community activities and events that encourage active community engagement and volunteerism and promote a sense of community amongst the residents of Walgett.
  - Oversee the implementation of the Walgett Community Development Plan.
  - Facilitate networking and collaboration between community organisations.
  - Actively promote initiatives and events that enhance enterprise and tourism development opportunities for local Walgett businesses.

Great model to learn from - Dampier Community Association (Pilbara, WA) - https://www.dampier.org.au/

**Timeframe: Immediate** 

2. Establish the WCDA to fulfil the above stated goals.

**Timeframe: Immediate** 

3. Secure funding and support to establish a base for the WCDA and a Coordinator position

**Timeframe: Immediate** 

4. Appoint a WCDA Coordinator

**Timeframe: Immediate** 

5. Coordinate the 'Makeover Visit' of the Rural Aid Team

**Timeframe: Immediate** 

6. To develop and resource an entrepreneurial development support system to assist local people with new enterprising ideas.

**Timeframe: Short term and ongoing** 

## **LEAD GROUP**

North West Plains Sustainability Group Walgett residents, organisations, and businesses Walgett CWA

## **OTHER PARTNERS**

Walgett Shire Council
Walgett District Sporting Club
Local Aboriginal Land Council.
Dharriwaa Elders Group.
Rural Aid
FRRR
Walgett RSL Memorial Club

#### **Theme Two**

# Kick-Starting Walgett Tourism

#### **ACTIONS**



- 1. Formulate a comprehensive 'Tourism Action Plan' that aligns with WSC's 'Destination Management Plan', focused on becoming a tourist stopping destination and incorporating the following elements -
  - Auditing existing town and district tourism product.
  - Identifying and developing new tourism ideas and product including initiatives related to-
    - Indigenous tourism.
    - Pastoral and farming heritage.
    - Metal Sculptures and Mural Project.
    - Nature-based initiatives including bird viewing trails and bush walking.
    - Horsing events at Showgrounds
  - Enhancing marketing, customer service, town storytelling and operator networking.

**Timeframe: Immediate to medium term** 

#### 2. Establish a local Tourism Sub-Committee as part of WDCA

**Timeframe: Immediate** 

# 3. Create physical infrastructure that enhances local and visitor appeal including

- Developing the levee walk and cycle trail with seating, interpretation, and introduction of a 'Park Run' event.
- Investigating a Cultural Centre focusing on local artists and the Jimmy Little collection.
- Creating a central caravan parking area.
- Erecting a Sunset Bench to watch the 'Best Sunsets in the World'.
- Establishing 'Selfie Spots' including main street.
- Expanding bird watching support infrastructure.
- Erecting existing bird and wildlife interpretative signage.
- Locating a tourism flyer stand in every business.

**Timeframe: Short to medium term** 

# 4. Supporting WSC's website that highlights the tourism opportunities of Walgett

**Timeframe: Immediate** 

## **LEAD GROUP**

Walgett Shire Council.

Walgett Visitor Information Centre.

WCDA.

North West Plains Sustainability Group.

Walgett CWA.

## **OTHER PARTNERS**

Walgett Historical Society.

**Local Aboriginal Land Council.** 

Walgett RSL Memorial Club

**Walgett Show Society.** 

**Destination NSW.** 

Regional Development Australia Orana.

**Regional Events Activation Fund of NSW Government.** 

#### **Theme Three**

# **CBD** Beautification

#### **ACTIONS**



1. Revisit the CBD Study and revise with current priorities.

**Timeframe: Immediate and ongoing** 

#### 2. Instigate physical works to enhance appearance including

- Deep cleaning of main street.
- Painting of shops.
- Increasing the number of bins.
- Planting of trees to develop more shade.
- Constructing new artistic seating utilising aboriginal designs and heritage materials.
- Installing bollards and flag poles.
- · Improving curbing and guttering.
- Improving car park arrangements.
- · Refreshing signage.

**Timeframe: Immediate and ongoing** 

#### 3. Foster greater 'street life and welcoming feel' through

- Supporting more business activity on pavements.
- Introducing more main street community events.
- Fostering more alfresco dining and café life.
- Improving shop frontage.

**Timeframe: Immediate and ongoing** 

#### 4. Develop a Public Art and Heritage Strategy that incorporates

- Sponsoring new public street art including a 'Sculpture and Mural Trail' incorporating metal sculptures.
- Restoring and painting of heritage buildings.
- Introducing heritage streetscape photos as part of new interpretative signage.
- Replacing or repainting planter boxes with artistic designs capturing local heritage and culture.
- Planting trees.

**Timeframe: Short term and ongoing** 

# 4. 5. Assist the Walgett Historical Society to create a new farm machinery display area at the rear of the Museum.

**Timeframe: Short term and ongoing** 

#### 6. Develop and implement a 'Ask Me, I am a Local' scheme.

**Timeframe: Short term and ongoing** 

## **LEAD GROUP**

Walgett Shire Council; WCDA; North West Plains Sustainability Group; Walgett CWA; Arts group; Local businesses; Aboriginal Land Council; Walgett Historical Society; Walgett Tourist Information Centre.

## **OTHER PARTNERS**

Local Aboriginal Land Council; Garden Group; FRRR; Rural Aid; Men's Shed; Tidy Towns Program of NSW KAB.



#### Theme Four

## Youth Retention & Attraction

### **ACTIONS**



- 1. Formulate a 'Youth Retention and Attraction Plan' that focuses on
  - Enhancing meaningful and active child and youth civic engagement, including community enhancement projects in the CBD and at the river.
  - Increasing youth recreation options, especially non-sporting options and afterschool activities.
  - Extending the Justice Reinvestment model to find new ways of working with young people.
  - Building upon the new PCYC facility to provide a comprehensive integrated youth service.
  - Identifying local youth training and jobs options including extending the council's current school to work initiatives and traineeship initiative
  - Identifying youth leadership opportunities and providing them with a voice.
  - Maintaining regular contact with young people after they leave the community.
  - Implementing a campaign to target the return of the 25-40-year-old cohort.
  - Converting Youth Advisory Council to Youth Action Council, including provision of budget.

**Timeframe: Immediate** 

- 2. Introduce activities through the schools that build active citizenship and opportunities for Walgett young people to identify and implement what they care about, drawing upon programs that have been utilised in other small towns; namely-
  - 'RuMAD?' Are You Making a Difference? (Bank of I.D.E.A.S.)
  - 'Community Minded Kids' (Community Minds)
  - 'Dream Seeds' (Youthrive)

**Timeframe: Short term** 

3. Focus on expanding youth lifestyle and employment opportunities provided by the \$7 million investment by the NSW Government to the PCYC facility.

**Timeframe: Immediate to long term** 

4. Introduce regular Aboriginal youth 'Back to Country' camping experiences.

**Timeframe: Immediate to long term** 

5. Investigate and instigate other youth recreation options especially related to greater use of the Pool, Bore Bath, parks, skate park, youth centres and youth spaces.

**Timeframe: Immediate to long term** 

6. Explore new agricultural education options at the Walgett Community School, especially related to dry land farming, sustainability, agricultural tourism and bush tucker, and the use of pastoral technology and robotics.

**Timeframe: Short term** 

## **LEAD GROUP**

Walgett Shire Council; Youth Council; Aboriginal Elders; Walgett Youth Centre; PCYC; Walgett Community College; TAFE NSW; St Joseph's Catholic School; Community Options; Walgett Aboriginal Medical Service

## **OTHER PARTNERS**

WCDA; North West Plains Sustainability Group; Local Aboriginal Land Council; Dharriwaa Elders Group; Walgett RSL Memorial Club; Regional Growth Fund of NSW Government; FRRR; Rural Aid; RDA Orana; Community Garden; CWA. Sporting Clubs

#### **Theme Five**

# Town Entrances and Signage Strategy

### **ACTIONS**

- Design and implement new and eye-catching town entrance statements.
- 2. Undertake a signage audit of the Walgett townsite and district.
- 3. Develop and implement an advertising signage strategy to promote local tourist attractions and businesses, that begins 80 kms out of town.
- 4. Erect signage in the CBD area to indicate key facilities like parking and public amenities.
- 5. Secure funding to design and implement a heritage and cultural interpretative trail on the Levee and through CBD.
- 6. Introduce a 'What's on in Walgett This Month' electronic sign.

**Timeframe: Short to medium term** 

### **LEAD GROUP**

Walgett Shire Council; WCDA; Walgett Visitor Information Centre; Dharriwaa Elders Group; North West Plains Sustainability Group; Walgett CWA; WAMS

## **OTHER PARTNERS**

Local businesses. Walgett Historical Society. Garden Group.

#### Theme Six

# Pool-Bore Bath Upgrades

### **ACTIONS**

- 1. Enhance the Pool and Bore Bath complex area as a key community 'hub gathering space' and visitor attraction through the following pool improvements
  - Extending lawn areas.
  - Creating more shade.
  - Introducing waterpark and non-water based equipment and activities- additional gym facilities, jumping pillow, trampoline, water slide.
  - Holding more events at the pool -
    - Running outdoor films.
    - Introducing sporting activities at the pool like beach volleyball.
  - Improving pricing, access, and opening hours free entry for local youth on weekends.
  - Developing as an all-year operation.

**Timeframe: Immediate and ongoing** 

**LEAD GROUP** 

**Walgett Shire Council** 

**OTHER PARTNERS** 

WCDA Garden Grou. Swimming Club

#### Theme Seven

# Community Development Initiatives

### **ACTIONS**

- 1. Instigate a 'Walgett Pride Campaign' incorporating positive Walgett stories to address outdated negative images of Walgett and generate more community pride and engagement. See the 'Give Me Geraldton Any Day' Campaign
- 2. Continually upgrade local parks as key green spaces for the community to gather and enjoy, and add to the visitor appeal of the town- equipment, trails, seating, yarning spaces, outdoor gym, coffee van, child safety fencing, community gardening, include the creation of a 'Sunset Deck' on Gilwarny Rd.
- 3. Instigate regular initiatives that develop, celebrate, and recognise local leadership and volunteerism and active citizenship.
- 4. Enhance facilities at the showgrounds to attract more regional events, including the grandstand, toilets, fencing, seating, shade, signage, carpark, and entrances.
- 5. Establish a Childcare Task Team to explore options to deal with the massive shortage of childcare options in Walgett.
- 6. Undertake audit of services, identify gaps and actively promote business gaps.
- 7. Develop a 'Lifestyle Promotional Campaign' to attract new residents including -
  - Initiating an internet and print media campaign.
  - Creating a 'Welcoming' committee and kit.
  - Instigating a calendar of 'Back to Walgett' & school reunion events.
- 8. Undertake a 'Community Skill and Passion' Audit' of local residents and organisations.

**Timeframe: Immediate and ongoing** 

- 9. Enhance the community garden with healthy living programs and bush tucker plantings.
- 10. Develop a Walgett Housing Strategy incorporating the following components -
  - Increasing stock and diversity of housing, including rental options.
  - Adapting housing for the climate.
  - Improving energy efficiency.

11. Develop and support food and water security initiatives.

Timeframe: Short to long term

### **LEAD GROUP**

WCDA; Walgett Shire Council;: Walgett Aboriginal Medical Service; North West Plains Sustainability Group; Community Garden; Aboriginal Elders

## **OTHER PARTNERS**

Local Aboriginal Land Council; Dharriwaa Elders Group; Walgett RSL Memorial Club; Rural Aid; Walgett CWA; Walgett RSL Memorial Club; Men's Shed; Garden Group; University of Sydney

### **Theme Eight**

# River Development Projects

### **ACTIONS**

- 1. Instigate improvements to the boat ramp area including -
  - Preparing development plans.
  - Cleaning up the area and removing suckers.
  - Developing shade areas.
  - Improving directional signage.
  - Enhancing the parking area.
  - Installing interpretative signage.
  - Planting trees.

**Timeframe: Immediate and ongoing** 

#### 2. Rehabilitate the weir area including -

- Improving access with all-weather road.
- Constructing amenities.
- · Beautifying area with basic infrastructure including introduction of bins, lighting, and river and wildlife interpretative signage.
- Expanding opportunities for water sports and recreational fishing.

**Timeframe: Immediate and ongoing** 

#### 3. Establish a permanent caravan park on the river.

**Timeframe: Immediate and ongoing** 

#### 4. Create access to the Barwon and Namoi river junction.

**Timeframe: Immediate and ongoing** 

#### 5. Enhance Norman Tracker Walkway developments.

**Timeframe: Immediate and ongoing** 

### **LEAD GROUP**

Walgett Shire Council; Weir Committee; Water NSW

#### OTHER PARTNERS

WADA; North West Plains Sustainability Group; Men's Shed.



