### Council Closures Over Christmas Period

Council departments and services will have adjusted operating hours over the Christmas period.

Click here to view the full details, including dates, times and on-call contact numbers.

From all of us at Council, we'd like to extend our warmest wishes for a safe and joyful holiday

## Wentworth Street Bridge Replacement Project Complete

The Wentworth Street Bridge replacement project has been successfully completed, including final landscaping efforts that have helped restore and enhance the surrounding area. The project, which spanned nine months of extensive work, has delivered a significant upgrade to the crucial crossing over Rocky Ponds Creek.

Funded by the NSW Government's Fixing Country Bridges program, the project replaced the outdated timber bridge with a modern concrete structure designed to improve safety and traffic flow. The new bridge is higher and wider, offering enhanced clearance and capacity, and addressing longstanding safety concerns for local residents and visitors.

With a total funding of \$1,068,000, the project was completed under budget, thanks to the collaborative efforts of Council's Works Department and specialist contractors. In the final phase, drainage work around the bridge abutments was completed to ensure effective water management.

This vital upgrade enhances both the safety and efficiency of this key local crossing, while the landscaping improvements—such as new turf and tree planting—add to the beauty of the area.

Click here to read more.



## **Expressions of Interest: Licence** and Operation of Crofters Cottage Café - Centennial **Parklands**

Council invites submissions from qualified applicants for the licence and operation of Crofters Cottage Café, located in Centennial Parklands, Glen Innes. Since 2001, the café has been a cultural hub offering a mix of Celticinspired events, food, and local products.

The café features a fully equipped commercial kitchen, seating for 30 indoors, and an outdoor area for 16-20 people. The successful applicant will create a welcoming environment while maintaining the café's atmosphere

Preference is given to food businesses, but other uses may be considered. Applicants must meet food safety standards, maintain public liability insurance, and have relevant business experience.

Submissions close at 3 PM on 27 January 2025.

Click here to learn more or submit your proposal.

## Glen Innes Health Hub to Open in 2025

The Hunter New England and Central Coast Primary Health Network (HNECC PHN) has announced that Rural Fit, a specialist allied health organisation, will operate the Glen Innes Health Hub.

Part of the "Better Health for the Bush" initiative, the Health Hub will be located in the former Westpac Bank building at 293 Grey Street, Glen Innes, and is set to open in early to mid-2025.

Funded by a Federal Government grant through the Innovative Models of Care (IMOC) Program, the Health Hub will pilot a collaborative, multi-disciplinary approach to primary health care. This new model aims to enhance access to health services by introducing new services, supplementing existing ones, and leveraging digital tools to improve navigation of the health system.

The Glen Innes Health Hub is designed to meet community needs and improve rural health outcomes.

Click here to find out more.

## Glen Innes Severn Water **Supply Fully Compliant Following PFAS Testing**

Glen Innes Severn has received the results from recent PFAS (per- and poly-fluoroalky) substances) testing in the local drinking water supply and is pleased to advise that all water systems across the region meets all guideline limits based on the tests conducted, offering assurances to residents that there is no cause

In November 2024, Council engaged with the NSW Health program for PFAS testing. The results, received in mid December, show the presence of almost no level of PFAS.

Importantly, this level is well below current Australian drinking water safety limits, as well as proposed future limits recently released in the draft National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) fact sheet, meaning there is no immediate health risk to residents.

PFAS are a group of synthetic chemicals that have been used in various products for decades, including non-stick cookware, firefighting foams, water-resistant fabrics and personal care items.

Due to their resistance to heat, water, and stains, these chemicals have been widespread in everyday products since the 1950s. However, PFAS are persistent in the environment and are difficult to break down.

While the New South Wales Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) continues to investigate PFAS contamination at various locations across the state, there are currently no concerns or investigations related to PFAS in the Glen Innes Severn water catchment

Click here to find out more about PFAS testing.

**Every Saturday Australian Standing Stones Parkrun** 8am

SEE WHAT'S ON!

### 21 December

WHAT'S

ON IN THE

**UPCOMING** 

**EVENTS** 

**HIGHLANDS?** 

**Summer Solstice at the Australian Standing Stones** 12.30pm

11 January **Glen Innes Races SAVE THE DATE** 

25 January **Deepwater Races** SAVE THE DATE

14-16 February **Glen Innes Show SAVE THE DATE** 

## **CLICK OR SCAN** FOR MORE OF OUR **UPCOMING EVENTS**



Council is always happy to assist with promoting your events, new tourism products and new businesses. Please send through all assets including information, images and flyers (pdf) to:

eventsofficer@gisc.nsw.gov.au.

## **JOBS AT** COUNCIL

Council currently has a number of fantastic career opportunities available:

- **Team Leader Maintenance Grading**
- **Care Facilitator**
- **Heavy Plant Operator (Drainage)**
- **Heavy Plant Operator (Heavy** Patching)
- **Skilled Construction Worker** (Maintenance)
- **Casual Positions Ongoing**

For more information, or to apply, please visit the Jobs at Council page.

# **Upcoming Annual General Meetings**

Glen Innes Severn Library Committee - Tuesday 18 Febrary 2025 | Glen Innes Severn Public & **TAFE Library**