

Cultural Plan Consultation - Surveys

Comments are as registered

Survey 1 Narrative Responses

What must be included in the Cultural Plan?

- Long term sustainability
- Inclusion of heritage and people need to be able to have an input on things so they feel like a whole community. I think inclusion and helping our kids through culture and togetherness will build a strong community.
- Always, always consult with the local Elders before making any decisions on their behalf. It is time to bridge the gap between the Aboriginal people and Narrandera Shire Council. They must be consulted regarding all ideas before anything can be put into place. This will allow stronger acts of Self Determination, connections to community, connection to self and raise the confidence of the people in the Aboriginal community.
- Cooperation with neighbouring talent and resources
- Diverse range of ideas i.e. age, gender, race
- I think that a focus on Aboriginal culture is a priority, education, embracing, celebrating and protecting cultural sites
- Public and community art
- Written and oral recordings
- Theatre production or better access to productions
- A reconciliation plan must be done
- Establish a true and historical culture of Narrandera
- Appropriate signage throughout the town telling a story of our history
- Acknowledgment of murdering island and other atrocities committed against the Aboriginal people
- Support for NAIDOC Week
- Extension of Arts Centre to include storage and deck.
- Support community to hold Indigenous events.
- Part time staff to support Arts Centre and arts development.
- More for youth and young adults to do of a night
- More help for young people.
- Make sure all community members can access these.
- Community consultation
- The full 100% engagement with the community and by the community to bring down the walls between Council culture and the town culture so we can really achieve amazing things for this town. Narrandera like so many other small town communities has sadly build up resentment against their local town authorities and Councils instead of supporting their local Council. This can be tricky but certainly can be overcome by lots of open invitations for the 10 people to feel they're part of the whole towns cultural planning.
- Diverse activities that really does appeal to multiple different groups in the Shire
- Opportunity and fairness, despite race colour or creed
- Positivity
- Embracing the art, dance, music, spirituality, medicine and culture of our Aboriginal heritage and teaching the value of Aboriginal culture and foods. Let's put Narrandera on the map to show the world how proud we are of our Aboriginal culture and hope we never lose it. And how much there is to learn that can be valuable and incorporated into all cultures
- Aboriginal + Youth and LGBTQIA voices MUST be heard and included, or none of this is worth anything.

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- Indigenous Culture, Dance and Food
- Things that are accessible to everyone
- Include a variety of activities not the same old crafty crap. I would like to see exercises to music for disabled and elderly, and free singing group, visiting poets during JOB festival free sessions for people with disabilities
- Inclusiveness
- Economy, people, skills, education, history, environment.
- Relative writing. Sense of community.
- "Our big & Strong Indigenous community!! Not enough is being done for our native people & more for young people!! Smaller children especially"
- Consensus the voice of the community
- Lots of references to sport in the earlier questions, but no reference in the previous top issues. Sport is a big part of our Narrandera culture. The plan must no focus on one group of people.
- Guidelines for public art so it is not done ad hoc
- Supporting and promoting local business
- Attracting visitors
- Supporting local qualified or skilled people (as a lot of unskilled people currently get a lot more support than qualified people especially in natural health industry, MLM and backyard market traders more supported and promoted, than those who hold degrees and real training)
- Nature and Aboriginal

How could this be achieved?

- Shell out the dollars to build an interactive cultural centre that would employ local indigenous people to share their skills and stories with visitors. This ensures the stories from our region are told and live on.
- Maybe a community event to get ideas and have input. People love having their say.
- Physically go and have conversations with the Elders and start building the relationships needed to be able to work effectively.
- Recognise and be receptive to ideas and proposals when they're presented
- Have meetings with diverse groups and collate ideas
- Community involvement, Trust in our community And lots of money
- Seek funding for Arts Centre extension.
- Small grant for NAIDOC week and unkind support of event e.g. promotion
- Support group to seek funds to create small event.
- Part time staff to support Arts Centre And and arts development
- Multi purpose building.... weekly rotation of activities, movie, board games, a place to hangout with friends to chat listen to music. Snack and drink machines, game machines. Or even a dance.
- Ask young people, what it is that will give them an interest in the long run.
- Make sure they cater to all people.
- Surveys, meetings
- I think having open days at the Council Chambers and continuing with the public meetings asking the town to be part of the process so they really do feel part of the cultural planning of this town . Also having the perception that the Council really is asking the town to bring their input even though I know you already do that it's all about perception
- Reach out and learn/capitalise on what is happening organically

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- Not being to focus on a particular race. Encourage all groups and participants despite race have equal opportunity
- Visually appealing
- Women of all age groups working together on their cultural heritage and sharing together and with the community as a whole
- I am not smart enough to have those answers, this isn't the field I work in. But representation and inclusion is important in these processes.
- Let the people determine how to move forward.
- Advise from Elders
- No cost involved. At a location easy to access
- Consultation with all groups in Narrandera
- Strong leadership, good funding, community involvement.
- Interaction and inclusion with more of the minority groups not just youth aged from the 10-14 age range. More to do with smaller children and older teenagers.
- Older people have lots going on in the town we need more for children.
- Also the indigenous community must be involved! With the whole of the community and what is happening. I believe it is vital.
- Communication
- Realistic consideration of what the majority of people need / want / enjoy.
- Community consultation explaining the true cost of public art, and the ongoing upkeep for murals
- Involve and promote skilled people.
- Promote the boutique cafe and wellbeing gems we have in town to city people looking to relax and rejuvenate.
- Employment of an Aboriginal worker to focus on this

What are the gaps in Council's cultural services and programs?

- I don't believe there are enough things around for people to get involved in
- I am not aware of any.
- Sometimes it's unclear whether staff are overworked or don't care.
- Middle age programs that are inexpensive and easily accessed
- Major gaps
- At the moment there isn't really anything that celebrates services and programs to the full advantage
- Support for Wiradjuri community to celebrate culture
- Need more variety
- Transport
- That it's perceived as the Council doing one thing and the town watching another . Even though I know that to be personally not true it's again about the perception of how the Council communicate how willing they are to really listen to their concerns and are really trying to involve them in the planning .
- I personally believe you're doing a great job but that perception is not coming through and I'm constantly telling the people of Narrandera It's not an arse and then we are all the Council so stop blaming them and become part of it.
- Too staid and things must be done 'Council's' way
- Being transparent and information output

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- Not promoted enough in advance and often
- That's a good question. Possibly it's time for fresh leadership, accountant department needs an overhaul and education about cultural diversity
- Lack of lots of things.
- As a new resident it seems you have to be someone who knows someone to even be invited to participate in current programs and services that are available.
- Communication to the community maybe?
- Informing people what is going on. Council need to spread awareness of their services and programs
- Didn't know we had one. Improve your communication of activities regularly
- More publicity about Council's cultural services and programs both before and after events
- Decent Council representatives from staff.
- Age! Mostly
- Misses mainstream. Too group orientated.
- Too much focus/indulgence on one segment of the community. If the community wants something then those people need to step up and not expect Council to hand it to them without putting in some effort themselves.
- There is no formal plan or direction forward, there is no dedicated funding stream
- It's always the same people involved. Look for fresh faces and talents, there are wonderful people in town doing really brilliant things that never get noticed dig for the hidden gems
- Communication with community

How could those gaps be filled?

- Community events or gatherings
- When the decisions are made to have cultural services and program, make sure that all people are made aware and not just a select few. It needs to be put in a public domain and more than once.
- Timely responses to emails would be a start.
- Having a small committee of diverse people who are not business owners and who are interested in making a difference but do not want to take over
- Community engagement
- Money for the arts and culture
- A place for arts and cultural activities
- By Council being more open to these things
- By looking outside the box
- We should employ an Aboriginal cultural liaison person
- We should make the arts and culture more accessible "
- Support for NAIDOC week, small event, Aboriginal cultural employee
- Community involvement and Input
- Some Council run public transport
- Showing lots of promotion and videos on Facebook and social media with the perception of engaging the town in whatever it is that you are planning. Again it's quite tricky because you are already trying to do that but it's all about perception.
- More inclusive / collaborative planning
- Being open and fair with all members of the community. Unemployment opportunity to be focused

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- Change new ideas and better planning including a wider public opinion
- Creating inclusive and welcoming programs.
- Giving people new to the community the opportunity to participate and have the ability to become a contributing member of the Narrandera Shire.
- Continued use of social media
- Using a range of avenues to advertise
- Communication marketing activities
- Wider used of local media including newspaper and community radio
- New staff, create a new cultural role
- More for younger gens. More Koori involvement.
- By being not so group specific. Inclusive of entire community not just specific groups as funding allows.
- Getting people motivated to actively be involved. Not offering it if the community won't contribute themselves.
- Formalize a cultural plan, get it approved by Council and budgeted for in the long term financial plan
- Choose different people to focus on ...those who don't seek attention willingly
- Having an Aboriginal worker that is accepted by community so they can work with Council

What are some of the global / national trends in cultural development we should be paying attention to?

- Check out what they do up in the Daintree rainforest cultural centre. Then think about what Council could do for Narrandera.
- Language reclamation
- Cultural Festivals
- Traditional Land management
- Publicly displayed Aboriginal Art
- Reclamation of cultural practices
- Capacity building
- There's a huge online audience that are receptive to well-told and well-placed stories and resources.
- Health and well being
- History, Acknowledgment, Celebrating, Art Music
- Public art, quality art and events in laneways
- Listening to each other and actually hearing what people are saying. Safe spaces to feel welcome and to be yourself and to be able to express yourself without fear of being picked on.
- Zero waste and sustainability initiatives
- Ecological and environmental
- Check Vietnam
- Community activities, house concerts, the culture of the arts being shared in people's homes and shops and churches and community groups doing it all together
- There is a generational change happening. Volunteers by retirees limits activities to retirees.
- The rest of Australian culture involving all members despite race. We are suffering in some form of way
- Water !

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- Our town should be the greenest in the area as we don't have water restrictions "
- Learning others languages, deepening ones understanding of traditional foods, music, beliefs, history, dance and art
- Inclusiveness, Sustainability, Co-working spaces for all creative/biz types, Equity, Public Art.
- No good having great activities if same old five or ten people attend
- Food festivals
- LGBTQI stuff. Culture isn't race or ethnicity. Oh getting refugees here to start businesses, especially food ones
- Street art!
- Water park
- Plant based meals and more healthy choices
- Edible gardens
- Bike tracks
- Use of the internet for larger community involvement. Streaming of events, exhibitions & other such from all over the World.
- It would be best to avoid some of the global and national trends which focus on minorities, a culture of offence,
- Sustainability and the involvement of youth
- Climate change ,renewable energy ,natural and complementary health trends, (to address rural GP shortage, antibiotic resistance crisis and rebuild a full spectrum health care focus),
- Festival that are for today's needs

How can we achieve this?

- Go for a trip to the Daintree and check it out
- Putting in all the programs I have ticked above.
- Let other people share in promotion. Encourage ambassadors to take ownership.
- Funding
- Pretty sure that is something that the community can be involved in
- And if we engage people with knowledge of arts and culture that would be a start
- Council need to not try and micro manage they need to work with the people more
- Seek funding - create small grants for cultural activity
- Have a multipurpose space to hold events/shows for all different groups/ages.
- Better access and more events
- Contact other Councils and organisations that are working on it- Wagga is doing great work
- A small botanic garden with endemic specimens and workshops
- Again having open Council chambers and meetings and gatherings in homes with music and a clear objective of wanting your ideas that being the town
- Engage with and listen to younger people. What do they want and how do they want to be involved?
- More programs in education and job opportunities for all members of the community
- 12 free months of watering our homes, natures strips and sides of streets
- Working together, sharing ideas. Surveys being genuine
- Engaging more local artists. Giving a space for people to come together and create that is open to all
- Working hub/studio for local artisans to share

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- Utilise our park
- Refugees, drag queens performing story time! Showing empty shops with rent prices at tree change expo
- Community support, volunteering, create committees. Make more jobs. Apply for more funding. Find locals with knowledge
- Put the word out
- Fundraise
- Being more adventurous & savvy with IT & how we share with broader community. Live stream to theatre screens. g. Bring a visual tour of the Hermitage Gallery to the schools & general public.
- By being sensible and balanced and not pandering to noisy minority groups. By looking at the long term and using any funds wisely to deliver programs that benefit the entire community.
- Community consultation, an agreed formal cultural plan, adopted and budgeted for by Council
- Ask skilled locals in these areas . Encourage industries to work together i.e. medical centre and complementary health practitioners...focus on local waste reduction, ask engineers to design infrastructure around long term renewable plans
- Work together

Do you have any other comments?

- I would like to see some youth groups around for kids to do. There isn't enough for our kids to do. I don't think you consider the families here in the community with larger families when the events are expensive. The street parties r great as they r cheap and lots of fun! Love this events!
- Aboriginal people have lived here for 120 000 years and in 200 their culture was almost decimated, somewhere. It is time to remove the shame from Aboriginal people and starting realising that by helping the Aboriginal people connect to who they are will enable greater things in the future.
- Narrandera Shire Council are a lot more receptive to ideas from the broader community than some neighbours. Keep being receptive!
- This survey was so bloody long it was almost ridiculous
- I'm not sure how many people will bother with it so I think that there needs to be a better way to start this journey
- Start the conversation don't treat people like they are dumb
- I think you guys are doing a great job and like I said before so many small towns have a similar negative view by the town and I think it's quite achievable to change that with a few steps I've mentioned that something I should probably talk to you face-to-face about . Good on you Narrandera Council
- This is a fantastic town but there has been no advancement over 30 years I have been here. Time stand still in Narrandera. We need more industry to be attracted to this area which will create jobs , lest crime and equal opportunities for all members of this community despite race.
- Don't take forever to make a decision. Get it happening
- Yes I think the Lake Talbot swimming complex should be part of the cultural centre not a waste of space and money water park . Thank you
- I would really love to see a shared studio opened by the Council that provides an inclusive and thriving co-working space.
- This is an effective social enterprise in many communities around the world.

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- Let people connect and have an opportunity to get their start ups STARTED!
- Tired of participating in programs here as there is a core of people in the local arts community who do not welcome new people or respect their opinions.
- Arts and culture is super important.
- Council should have a branch of indigenous peoples
- Need more than Council policy & workers to instigate. Private enterprise & philanthropy needed also.
- It would be great if programs are reflective of practical and sustainable activities.

Survey 2

What makes Narrandera unique – what are you proud of about Narrandera?

- There is a fair bit to see
- The river, our Aboriginal culture, our sports grounds, our swimming pool and our lake
- Our many trees, and our pool and park are big drawcards for visitors and is a great environment in summer.
- Mainly the people who live here but also it's position on the river at the centre of south east Australia's main population areas and it's rich and diverse agricultural history.
- Natural attributes of the town – River / Lake/ Koalas
- Community spirit
- How friendly it is.
- It is a cultural melting pot of many and varied cultures that all should be celebrated
- Narrandera is an undulating green oasis surrounded by a flat landscape. The environmental zone along the river and period buildings in the town centre are points of difference along with the lake and pool.
- I am proud of the talent, skills and varied interests of the people who live here, there is obviously something here that nurtures creativity here in Narrandera .
- Murrumbidgee River, Original Main Street, Pool, Amazing Parks
- Tree lined streets - Lake Talbot - Marie Bashir Park
- Its waterways, parks, reserves and sporting facility's
- Our local pool, river and Rocky Water Holes. Our beautiful Marie Bashir Park. The way people come together to help others.
- Bush land, Koalas, Lake Talbot, boutique shopping, own radio station, friendly people
- Friendly atmosphere
- Clean and tidy
- The pool. I have friends that come 2 hours away to use our pool her kids love the island pool and slides they are from Deniliquin

What aspects of our culture arts and heritage should receive more attention?

- I believe our Aboriginal culture is not shown enough though out our town
- Our agricultural history, the ethnic diversity of our population and success of our diaspora in many unrelated fields.
- Wiradjuri Cultural heritage - tour, landmarks identified - map

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- Need more signs like you have in the Koala reserve around all the towns of important aspects, monuments or areas of significance
- More public engagement projects in the arts and cultural community.
- All aspects need to be included, not just indigenous, Chinese, Australian and European arts and heritage ALL need to be included
- Promotion of heritage buildings in the central part of town. Continued partnership with CRC Church to provide a high class performance space in the town. New visitor centre will promote first nation and environmental values in the community.
- Traditional cultures not just art and food but traditional medicine. By supporting qualified complementary medicine practitioners and local indigenous people to promote natural vegetation that has medicinal qualities ...create a wildcrafting herb walk .
- Buildings in the Main Street, Museum, Masonic Hall (Arts Centre)
- More events in the art centre.
- I think we should spend more time and money on developing our natural resources e.g. the river. Add and maintain more jetty's ,boat ramps and walkways on the river
- Our Main Street needs more attention. No consistency, each block corner has a different look.
- Boutique shopping, Koalas.
- Transport history of river
- The history of the towns development
- The tiger moth, big guitar and the old cordial factory

What are your ideas for a more creative and vibrant Narrandera?

- Dirt jumps at the skatepark Showers and toilets at beaches etc
- We have a great river which I don't think our town takes advantage of . You to places along the Murray and see what the local Councils have done to attract tourists and also look after their locals
- Tidy up (hopefully sell to a caring owner) derelict and empty buildings on the south side i.e. the old police station opposite the courthouse and the building on the corner of East and Larmer Streets.
- The creation of a development hub or think place where people can be supported to explore ideas and pilot developments.
- Creative street art projects including augmented reality paintings, sculptures through out the Shire
- More promotion outside of our area.
- An annual arts festival that engages the community in public spaces.
- Capitalise on local talents with events that showcase it . Attract visitors with our coffee culture and many stores with antiques and reclaimed goods . Additional things to attract tourists is to create an image of Narrandera as a wellness hub by supporting and promoting local complementary medicine practitioners ...Bush foods tasting , wildcrafting herbal workshops
- Niche venues with food and retail interacting with arts and crafts and potentially performance. Expansion of the eco tourism to a catchment of 3-4 Hrs travel time from Narrandera. This can also hold the travelling retirees for some days.
- More public art, including sculptures, they last longer than murals
- Fix up the buildings in the Main Street - especially the facades. Sort out the items in the Museum and move it to somewhere cleaner and more welcoming. Promote and use the Masonic Hall.
- Main Street beautification, - Tree lined - art displays in main street etc.
- Events and festivals that are either at the reserves and sporting fields e.g. fishing comps, concerts/music festivals

Cultural Plan Consultation - Surveys

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- A cinema. Maybe outdoors?
- Council to have a more positive attitude and stop getting outsiders in to do planning
- More street promotions.
- I believe we should have a splash park in the big park we need more ads that tell people about our beautiful town

What would we need to make that happen?

- Children's ideas and Council's collaboration
- We have 2,3 very good local beaches which I think we could turn into great attraction both for locals and tourists . Toilets, cover and BBQ .
- Maybe a specific person appointed to sort out the reasons why they are in their current state
- A site with a range of equipment to support tech, culinary, artistic, etc endeavours along with a range of volunteers with the skills to assist people wanting to develop their ideas/products.
- Funding resources - Community involvement and ownership of initiatives - seeking funding and participating in activities outside of Council
- Community consultations and seeing who can take the same branded idea to different events like Sydney show, Henty Field Days etc to sell your Shire
- A cohort of creative, like-minded individuals and stakeholders to create and agree upon necessary goals and follow through to implementation.
- Yearly funding
- Development and execution of a marketing plan to engage local businesses and secure clients as day or overnight visitors. Exposure on the retirees social media promoting Narrandera as a stop for several days.
- Look beyond the usual talent pool and find the quiet achievers in the community approach and promote local businesses and the town as a whole with all its niche aspects
- Work with the owners of the building in the main street to encourage them to fix up the shop frontages. Make some hard decisions on the Museum and come up with a viable long term plan. Figure out what the Masonic Hall is supposed to be and start to use it as it seems to be very under utilized.
- Grant Money?
- \$\$\$\$\$ and someone to bring these innovations to life and keep them in Narrandera
- An outdoor cinema or cinema
- Listen to locals
- Community ideas and involvement
- The members of the Council to open their eyes and see a bigger picture. Our town is becoming a place to just retire and its got no wow factor to it

Aboriginal Specific Cultural Plan Consultation

Feedback

- For all Council formal events, all reasonable action should be taken to engage a local Aboriginal Elder for Welcome to Country.

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- Build partnerships within the community . Barriers for community involvement may be overcome by having a closer working relationship with the Local Lands Council.
- Build on NAIDOC Celebrations - engage stakeholders – work together as a community for event planning
- Greater Cultural connections by supporting dance groups and all other cultural activities
- Cultural Awareness within Council and the wider community should be by engaging a local Aboriginal for cultural awareness specific to our area
- Barriers for community involvement can be overcome by having the right people to talk to the community and overcoming the communication breakdown.- members of the Aboriginal Community involved in the communication within the Aboriginal Community- Aboriginal employment opportunity within the community sector at Council
- More consultation with local groups within the community such as NSW Aboriginal Education Consultative Group (AECG)
- Have a younger representation at meetings with Council (AELG) – younger representation to give an understanding and input to better the community. The younger members will be responsible for passing on to the next generation.
- Increase protection and increase awareness of Aboriginal Cultural sites – engage locals to identify scar and canoe trees to protect.
- Wiradjuri language signage / storyboards and plaques were among a few suggestions to be a part of cultural walks, which guided by our knowledgeable locals would increase awareness and increase recognition of these heritage sites.
- More Arts displays in Arts Centre in conjunction with Events to showcase local Aboriginal Artists giving more opportunity for recognition of artwork- being any form of art
- Acknowledge local sporting heroes also recognising people who have achieved. Narrandera has many heroes Indigenous and non-Indigenous who should be recognised in some way not only for the locals but also to promote our town for tourist marketing.
- Mentoring programs by local sporting heroes and high achievers to our youth and wider community
- Increase awareness and appreciation of Aboriginal culture within the wider community. Educate the community
- Develop Aboriginal cultural spaces
- Increase Aboriginal awareness among Council staff – local Aboriginal engagement
- Increased inclusion of Wiradjuri language in signage and interpretive materials
- Recognition of Aboriginal Cultural Heritage sites – engage local Aboriginals to identify and preserve and protect. Build partnerships with Lands Council, Local Land Services and Parks and Wildlife
- Create more opportunities for local Artists to showcase art and build business opportunities.
- Advocate for and support Aboriginal sporting initiatives.
- Aboriginal employment strategy - have increased number of Aboriginal employment with sustainable long term employment across the board including Apprenticeships and traineeships – Incentives and assistance for unemployed. Have an Aboriginal Elder invited for employment panel.
- Aboriginal Cultural Practices- Burning Off – Planting of more native drought resistant plants water storage
- New visitors Centre – Cultural awareness and local history – employ local Aboriginal
- Build relationship and break barriers with Business group – incentives and representation

WORKSHOPS

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Stakeholder Reference Group

What Should the Plan Include?

- Listing all the assets in town for people to access, both private and Council owned. Include on your list Uncle Mick's Museum and the Cad Factory Recording Studio.
- Draft themes arts, culture, sport – as all of these things bring people together in shared group activities. Having an even split of both KPIs / actions will be excellent.
- Consider how does the plan link to Create NSW funding priorities of rural, disability, First Nations, young people, CALD
- Creatively imagine how you can enact this cultural plan through budgeting.
- Possibility for Youth Council to be allocated a small amount of money of say 2K to deliver a project that they devise to meet a KPI in the plan? That is then also giving them some great skills in devising and delivering a project to a budget. Provide a mentor.
- Allocate budget to each key area for something to be delivered.
- Future annual Council grant program to include projects needing to link to the plan, in order to meet deliverables.
- Have Wiradjuri and English words side by side in the plan embedding First Nations thinking into the plan and supporting Wiradjuri and non-Wiradjuri people walking side by side, talking and learning together.
- Utilise Council purpose, vision, values.
- Council to employ someone who is based in the Arts Centre, who can enact plan a devising and delivering creative and cultural activities to the LGA.
- Promote and celebrate the Aboriginal, Chinese, pioneer, and modern heritage of the Narrandera Shire Local Government Area,
- Support the active involvement of all sectors of the community in activities and events,
- Explore the possibilities of providing additional support financially and otherwise across the Council area for arts and cultural projects,
- Develop a schedule of public art over the next ten years in consultation with local groups to determine new art projects that are suited to individual towns and villages and explore/ identify funding streams for these works and replacement costs if any (think murals)
- Produce and commission public art pieces with contributions from local and regional artists
- Create a catalogue of Council owned artworks
- Collaborate with local artists and cultural organisations to promote their activities on Council's website
- Collaborate with neighbouring Council's to develop a strategy to celebrate and promote arts at a regional scale
- Sportsperson Hall of Fame
- Railway history
- Canal history
- Tiger Moth memorial and airport
- Partnership such as Riverina Conservatorium and Charles Sturt University
- Tourism - Highway travellers casual visit and return visits.
- Natural Environmental Heritage (even though it could well be covered in dot points 1 and 2, it should probably stand alone as an extra point).
- Preserved Streetscapes
- The River (as a stand alone theme that binds the whole of the Riverina region)

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- Focus on music as a Conservatorium is being planned for the region. .
- Most centres welcoming music as a priority also welcome busking. Busking is an important community act that allows culture on the streets an. It is also a performance starting point
- A simple platform could be incorporated into the streetscape that would allow musicians to interact with a vibrant city centre. Buskers come from all backgrounds and demographics across the community local and far. Busking is a stage and a forum and an important developmental platform for interacting with the public.
- Create a plaza a small section of the main street was cordoned off and allowed for foot traffic, so that a large space in the centre of town becomes like a plaza. This would increase the visitor satisfaction, making shopping easier, allow social gatherings, connect up shops and cafes on either side of the street and create an atmosphere of human relaxation. This could act as a sort of semi-market and walkway every Saturday morning.
- Narrandera LGA to have a welcoming cultural policy that allows projects and culture to thrive, that then reflects back into the economy.
- Significant assets at hand are First Nations living culture and history.
- Environmental enjoyment and appreciation
- Public places and spaces and venues, culture and heritage of the LGA's towns
- Progressive art companies like the CAD Factory are contributing hugely to the economy is an ongoing asset that should also be an indicator and a cultural tourism drive

Community Workshops

What makes Narrandera unique?

- Where we are
- Infrastructure
- Chinese Heritage
- Farming
- Nature -Koalas – Wetlands etc.
- Ranges – Viewing platforms
- Wiradjuri Culture
- History – People
- Hankinson Fountain
- 4500 population and kicking goals

What Aspects of our Culture Arts Heritage should receive more attention?

- Trees / National Trust street scapes
- Trading Routes – Mirrool Creek
- Youth Culture
- Buildings and Architecture
- Hankinson Fountain
- 4.5K and kicking goals

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What are your ideas?

- No mall – High street shopping
- War History 8EFTS
- Aboriginal History
- Railway
- Water
- Sports that take advantage of our natural assets
- MIA

What would we need to make those ideas happen?

- Tourism - Generating Interest
- Visitors
- Population growth
- Employment opportunities
- Building the cultural economy
- Involvement
- Working regionally

Youth Consultation

Cultural Plan Suggestions

- Community noticeboard available for everyone
- Mental Health permanent establishment- for face to face consultations
- Along Wetlands put up more signs acknowledging history and culture
- Historical murals around town
- Historical Murals at sporting venues – local sportsperson
- High profile sports people for local events
- Gala Days Community Events
- Local intertown sports
- More activities on weekends and after school
- More Youth Workers
- Jobs for Youth Facebook page
- Younger representation on ALEG advisory committee
- Build relationships with Aboriginal groups – Lands Council – AECG
- Council events should have Elder for Welcome to Country
- Wetlands more Indigenous acknowledgement around Wetlands
- Provide more knowledge of culture – language and practices to wider community
- Girls programs – life skills and sporting (like Clontarf)

Cultural Plan Consultation - Surveys

Comments are as registered

- More Culture awareness in schools and wider community
- Awareness of climate change – more information around topic

Facebook Consultation

12 Questions in 12 Days

What Makes Narrandera Shire Unique?

- On the Sturt Highway to the outback, NSW SA and VIC and on the way North to the Kidman Way QLD. So Narrandera is on the edge of everywhere . And the edge of the river.
- Our free range disease free Koala reserve is one of a kind. Also the fact that National Water-skiing Championships are held on our lake must say something about how good it is! Our waterways from river to canal to creeks for fabulous fishing. Our community spirit and welcoming people. Just the beginning.
- Narrandera Shire has Koalas, their environment needs to be protected and enhanced. Narrandera Shire has a beautiful swimming area at the Lake. Not publicised enough. Narrandera Shire has the Murrumbidgee River for camping and fishing. A hidden treasure. Barellan has the oldest CWA Rest House in Australia , unique heritage, Barellan has the oldest CWA Rest House in Australia , unique heritage, Also the Big Racquet- needs a sign to explain its significance, especially for young children who have no idea who Evonne is, no idea of her wonderful achievements. Narrandera has beautiful trees, and lovely cafés. Do you need more?
- The river beaches, trees and Koalas and not just at the common. Great horse sport facilities. Rockin' on East and Rod Run. Sheep Dog trials and the Guinea Pig Show. Wide streets and low rise development.
- And yabby races...
- Our connections to the river, Aboriginal culture, our friendly caring community that always pulls together in a crisis, our ability to have a laugh, our wonderful artistic and musical talent, our fabulous facilities and willingness to pitch in and help when needed
- What makes Narrandera unique to me personally is the everlasting array of talent, Aboriginal heritage sites and opportunities to bring our community together to tackle issues such as our suicide rate, lack of housing, discrimination, cultural injustices, unemployment rate, troubled youth and drug and alcohol problems. But unfortunately we can never see eye to eye on what all of us see as "unique", I guess that's unique too. Also what makes us unique is the fact the our older population is taken care of more than our future generation.
- The Common and Lake Talbot, I know lots of other places have these but ours is better, I just love it up there. But that's just my opinion
- Location, Access to the most beautiful natural waterways, bush and wildlife, Sporting Venues, Diverse Cultural Heritage, An Inland Jewell!
- Our river Wildlife, scenery, strong ties to Aboriginal culture. We have many hidden treasures within the Narrandera Shire
- EVONNE GOOLAGONG-CAWLEY! And also the John O'Brian Festival! We have lots of amazing sportspeople and writers/artists around these parts
- Our being right on the river, on the junction of the two major highways, our closeness to our bush land...

Cultural Plan Consultation - Surveys

Comments are as registered

- Wiradjuri Culture, Koalas & Regeneration Reserve, Koalas & Regeneration Reserve, Murrumbidgee River, Lake Talbot & environs, Murrumbidgee River, Lake Talbot & environs, Earth Park Grong Grong, Evonne Goolagong Barellan connection
- The food in the town, Chinese, Italian etc. meals bring culture together.
- The pool and all the nature around it(Koala Reserve). The fountain.
- You started with a hard one! Maybe it is not unique....
- But further to that.... it is special because of its historical family connections and stories
- The people - their dreams and aspirations, interests, pride and passion, their ages and beliefs, their entrepreneurial spirit and love of lazy days by the water, their heritage and vision are what drives and moulds the unique character of Narrandera Shire
- Unique features of Narrandera Shire, - Its inability to capitalize on its favourable geographical location. - its lack of youth employment opportunities, - its desire to drive headfirst into a "retirement lifestyle" town without aiming to maintain and create opportunities for people to move here to prop up and aging population. But that's not the answer wanted. So, I don't know, our parks and gardens look nice?
- Close proximity to the bush. It's so beautiful out there and is just a walk a way

What makes you proud of where you live?

- The contributions our citizens have made to our community, state and county particularly the ones who have been born and bred here and gone on to do extraordinary things. That we do come together when needed. The wonderful events we run that showcase our town.
- The natural landscape
- Our sense of purpose, wanting to settle and bring up future generations here, NOT. How clean our water is, NOT. Our rates, NOT. Asking the Council if we can remove a tree or build a shed, NOT. Representatives for our Aboriginal community within the Council, NOT. How our Council listens to us, NOT! Our deadly Aboriginal flag wall in the park that looks like a German Flag , DEFINITELY NOT. Only thing that makes me proud about Narrandera will be my Indigenous family members and meeting my fiancée here. I'll be proud to leave.

If you had friends visiting where would you take them to showcase Narrandera Shire?

- Sandhills artefacts, We really lack draw cards IMO, wetlands take 10-15 mins to look at, we have the lavender farm but that's not everyone's thing. Lake Talbot that costs an arm and a leg when it's open... so for me it would have to be historical sights like massacre island, poison water hole creek etc
- Love the Sandhills Artefacts!!! Great one to show visitors for sure
- Isn't Lake Talbot \$4 to go for a swim? That's probably one of the cheapest pools around to get into.
- Yes but x's that by a few kids, couple of adults, visitors.. then food & drinks, slide etc, don't know about you, but last time I took my family plus family from Wagga it cost us almost \$200
- The water tower, the Rocky Water Holes the main street with our fabulous cafes and shops the common and look for Koalas Lake Talbot the wetlands Michael Lyons Studio and museum the beaches visit a 18cal fam like the citrus and hazelnut farm I could go on we have some lovely buildings and the old oak brewery ...
- Forgot to mention CRC church taking them around and showing them historic building...the other churches are beautiful too but hey id like them to meet the people cause the people are what really make this place
- Yes forgot the wonderful millinery shop and the museum and Marie Bashir park

Cultural Plan Consultation - Surveys

Comments are as registered

- Fabulous river / lake / pool, wonderful bushwalks and native flora and fauna, Grong Grong Earth Park, Evonne Goolagong Tennis Racquet, the water tower and of course the great food venues. Also the great events held
- Met 2 lots of campers at Narrandera today touring and they had nothing but praise for our home town - chatting to them with sounds of Koalas, Kookaburras and Pelicans coming in to roost. Just beauty and peace.
- Pics say thousand words and great to hear many positive solution-driven comments. Well done for putting the questions up to gather ideas to make improvements.
- Mini golf cafe by the lake Koalas. Where is the mini golf? They need to look at making one for people to enjoy
- Rocky waterhole bridge & area surrounding, big guitar, artwork, Koalas
- To Evonne's Wall, the Big Racquet, and the Barellan Tennis Courts!
- The Common and Koala Reserve. The beaches, the pool and the main Street. And, of course to both BioAg Locations
- Sand hills artifacts, the cafes, River and wet lands , park second beach, fisheries, Altina, lake Talbot , museum . Coolamon cheese, fire museum factory. fisher and farmer the second hand shop in Ganmain.
- Fairy lights down the street, Markeys beach down at the Bidgee, water tower, walk along Talbot, the local cafes
- The Common, wetlands, water tower, fisheries, museum, bakers and Barellan and Grong Grong.
- Narrandera Parkside Cottage Museum, Galore hill caves, if river is low enough the paddle steamer
- Wetlands, River, common, water tank, visitor centre, Sandhills artefacts, park, shops.
- Sandhill Artefacts, Wiradjuri art, the beach, Glendale orchard, Narrandera train station, Berrembed weir, Berrembed station & Grong Grong
- Lake Talbot, beaches, fisheries.
- Red Door cafe and Rocky Waterholes
- Narrandera Common counting Koalas.
- Looking up East St at night with lights on, view from lookout at top of Boat Ramp and Water Tower, wetlands, Lake Talbot and all the fabulous old buildings and homes around town.
- The lakes
- Michael Lyons, rocky water hole, red door, Spirit FM
- Narrandera common, rocky waterholes, any one of our food spots
- Sandhills Artefacts
- There isn't anything to do though besides go to the Bidgee and do skids
- Big Saturday night in Narrandera is lapping the main and then go out to Caltex or over to Leeton Maccas lol
- Do we have 'ONE' document at the Tourist Information Centre and on Council Website that provide a reference MAP that tracks a pathway through town to all the great tourist things to do: e.g Parkside Cottage Museum, Marie Bashir Park/Gardens and its facilities, highlight heritage buildings & our John O'Brien Heritage House, the wetlands, the pool, places to go (beaches)on the Bidgee, our wonderful Aboriginal Artefacts Studio, Library location etc etc

What is your favourite place in the Shire?

- Both Lake Talbot and the Barellan Swimming pool. Fabulous venues.
- Rocky Water Holes but only if you keep it as natural as it can be. There seems to be a lot of man made work going on down there bulldozing etc!! Please don't ruin it!!

Cultural Plan Consultation - Surveys

Comments are as registered

- Duncs lots of laughing and memories with great people young and old
- Lake Talbot swimming pool, the wetlands, Koala reserve
- Rocky Water Holes wetlands anywhere on the river, water tower, 5 Mile, Koala reserve etc etc.
- Please expand the Lake Talbot picnic area beside the water
- 5 Mile, have great memories of skiing out there.
- The Common, anywhere along the river or canal, wetlands
- Would have to be Lake Talbot complex
- Lake Talbot and Water tower
- Lake Talbot swimming complex
- Rocky Water Holes, the fisheries, kooris beach
- The river beaches
- Rocky Water Holes
- Barellan Swimming Pool
- Rocky Water Holes definitely.
- Home at Mum's place
- SANDHILLS
- Coffee shop
- Rocky water hole.
- The Common
- Lake Talbot pool, Marie Bashir Park. The skate park and basketball pit are popular with the younger crowd

What is your favourite place to go in the Shire?

- Watching Brent Lawrence square up at Willi McHale park against the new ball. Only to get out cheaply after drinks to a part timer
- A relaxing beer is always nice
- Garden and read book from library with coffee from one of coffee shops.
- Library then walk at the wetlands
- River, Bidgee and then kick ons with the boys nothing else to do
- Vege out at home
- Mountain bike through the bush around Rocky Water Holes, golf at the Narrandera golf club
- Coffee at Red Door
- Motorbike riding
-

What activities and hobbies do you enjoy?

- Sew, write,
- Kayaking, mountain bike riding, golf, river swimming
- Sewing, enjoying coffee with friends, CWA, driving around our lovely region. Our coffee shops are mighty good.
- Live music, markets, great food, art
- Horse riding, Narrandera Adult riding Club, Team Yarding, line dancing, rock n Roll dancing, Live music at the Exies and Bowlo, Koala spotting.
- Sewing, gardening, cooking, walking in nature
- Gardening, sewing, crocheting, knitting visiting family

Cultural Plan Consultation - Surveys

Comments are as registered

- As an activity, I really enjoy nothing more than having a beer. And as luck would have it, it's also one of my favourite hobbies.
- Motorbike riding, camping, BBQs
- These questions make me realise how reliant I am on Red Door!!!
- Reading, gardening, games, walking
- Wine bars, exhibitions, restaurants, theatre.
- I like driving past Council workers trying to figure out how many men it'll take to do one job, that's fun
- Water-skiing & Camping at the 5 Mile reserve
- Tenpin bowling, Writing, Board games
- Bush walking. Going to the park and Lake Talbot in summer. Going out to our many great cafes. Running and walking around our beautiful town and surrounding areas (wetlands, common, rocky waterhole)
- Fishing, kayaking, gardening. Walking.

What experiences would you like to enjoy in Narrandera Shire ?

- A fenced park area that is better suited to toddlers, the current equipment there is not safe or age appropriate. Shops with better access, so many have steps and narrow doorways making them difficult or impossible for wheelchairs, walkers and prams. Nature tours or educative workshops. Toy library maybe.
- Disabled access to all venues would be great. It is very expensive to put in initially, but more and more people are needing it as more appliances are now available to assist the elderly. And more older people wish to travel and actually DO THINGS. Years ago they hid from sight, now they are out and about.
- Free bike riding, a Koala tour, beer on an old pub balcony, live music, boating on the river
- More variety/options to eat out. A pub/bar that supports live music and local artists.
- To be able to drink our tap water would be a start
- Omg yes lol just the bare minimum. This really is essential. Everyone else has made great suggestions. Surely this should be the first thing we get right.
- Footpaths in every street, more police presence and those of us who water and mow our nature strips some reimbursement in water rates.
- Equality, our opinions heard and valued and sense of community cause this isn't it
- A sustainable future
- I dearly would like to see people using the empty shops in the main street. Maybe with monthly rents available for pop-up-shops, especially with spring now here more people coming into town. Then we have summer. A percentage of 'something' is better than 100% of nothing
- Free Wi-Fi in all the towns like Leeton has.
- Ooh I know, a Council that tries to attract new businesses to open in town. A greater effort to attract young families and people to town. An increased focus on making Narrandera a more desirable location for major employment infrastructure and companies. Literally a major fast food chain on our highway, compensate local cafes by offering advertising while giving people who aren't stopping but just want to swing in to get the kids a bite to eat on the way through a means to do so and give young people a job opportunity with a national chain. An appeal to neighbouring towns and cities supermarket chains to reopen our 2nd supermarket and funding to assist in the process so we have more employment opportunities. Oh and more importantly to me personally, id love to enjoy our community stage. Hey anyone know where its gone??? That big folding collapsible money pit

Cultural Plan Consultation - Surveys

Comments are as registered

doesn't seem to be doing much. Its a shame, a purpose built permanent stage could be used right now to host covid friendly outdoor socially distanced events.... oh well.

- Mate run for Council, You'll have my vote
- Maybe some water bubbler things like the one in Leeton Park to help reduce bottled water. Some towns like Mudgee have doggy poo bag dispensers to encourage dog owners to do the right thing

If you could just wave a magic wand and have anything in Narrandera Shire that you wanted what would it be?

- Have Lake Coolah intergraded into the dam structure of NSW. Not only would this dam benefit our farmers but the tourism that it would bring to Narrandera would be huge. Tim Fischer & Barnaby Joyce we're both in favour of this water containment.
- So much landfill could be dumped to start a wall especially from Leeton/Griffith
- A suitable play area for toddlers and a water park in the actual park a better shopping place that you can buy cheaper clothing and shoes without having to drive to wagga or Griffith more cemented footpaths and street lights fixed or placed with better lighting in the streets around Narrandera
- I agree with street lights also, half of them don't work or are blocked by trees so you can't see them anyway.
- And a hospital where people can have there babies instead of going out of town to have a baby as I know its hard for the ones that don't own cars or a licence
- Toilet facilities like the one at The Rocky Water Holes to be located at; Town Beach, Five Mile, 2nd Beach, These are a practical projects easily achievable. Narrandera is becoming more well known for its natural appeal and I think these amenities would be appreciated by those using these areas. Especially as these areas are becoming more linked together with walking /bike /pathways
- Agree on the toilets
- I have been pushing for these toilets for a while now
- Based on the Rocky Water Holes toilet type Council has the fundamentals for design and cost's already. Construction can be done locally with possible inclusion of volunteer/community groups having some input as like the Bridge Project.
- Yep definitely a must, I second that. Very popular spots for tourists and locals swimming walking and sightseeing. I think this is a great idea. 100 %
- I Agree with the toilets! These places are becoming bigger for the people of Narrandera and especially during summer and warmer weather coming up!
- A safe child proof fence around the whole play area at Narrandera park. The equipment enclosed by the fence at the moment, isn't toddler friendly. It's too hard for little ones to access and the spinning bowl nearly threw my grandchild out. The swings that they want to play on aren't in the safe area and it's too dangerous near the highway traffic. When you have children that don't understand traffic and have a tendency to run, it's quite worrying.
- Better drinking water would be wonderful! And I also agree with park facilities for the younger kids - something suitable for the under 3 years to play independently. More family friendly restaurants would be brilliant as well - we do have some of these facilities available but many could use improvement
- Free public transport once a fortnight so people in rural areas can head into their local pub, club or restaurant for a night out with friends and family - good for both the economy and mental health
- A Cultural Plan is a visionary document created by Councils across the country to draw focus to cultural pursuits such as a variety of arts activities for everyone in their community. These plans aim to foster cultural events in towns, theatres, galleries, museums, libraries, clubs etc aimed at

Cultural Plan Consultation - Surveys

Comments are as registered

entertaining us and connecting people. The result needs to be measurable and achieve the main aims of the plan, thus creating a vibrant, innovative and inclusive community to support community/town growth, hopes for a brighter future and new opportunities. Given this information the feedback I am reading over several days indicates people have two main priorities 1) Getting value for their rates dollar by improving our infrastructure i.e. water quality. People love access to our facilities so Council should focus on things like public toilets in places where we want visitors to go. 2) Given we have experience and success at running two great events (and more smaller ones) the John O'Brien Festival and the Easter 'Street Car' Weekend has a history of drawing larger numbers of people to town - I suggest Council re-look at how 'we' as a town can boost the volunteers to work on these committees, as I feel many volunteers are ageing and suffer burn out from the exertion and constant work these Festival events require. Perhaps Council could bring in a temporary Consultant Project Manager to assist and support and grow our existing 'Festivals' and recruit younger people in town (with energy and enthusiasm)! 3) Histories and stories of the region are important. Our library and museum, educational institutions, Council records, the Argus etc has lots of historical information. I see an opportunity for a group/committee to really push to develop a 'Narrandera Collection of local identities, places, local and family histories' into a volume of work for publication and to place online for purchase. Council may be able to obtain funding for such a project and its a way of engaging the community and our local businesses etc. I would love our community to grow in strength and creativity to make Narrandera a better place to live, work and grow old. There! congrats if you get to the end.....well done!

- Clean drinkable water, toddler suitable play area at the park, better shopping facilities such as another supermarket, somewhere to buy clothes and shoes that doesn't cost a days wage for one item, maybe some more entertainment things to do during school holidays or on weekends
- More industry. This would have a flow on effect of more jobs = more people in town = more business e.g. second supermarket, restaurants, pubs/bars = less empty shops. This would also help with sporting clubs who are always looking for more volunteers, players and supporters.
- A swimming pool or section of a pool for rate paying senior members of the community to use for therapy/laps without being bombed or whacked in the back of the head with a noodle. Honestly, the only time you can use the pool in summer is sunrise/sunset because it is chock a block with unsupervised school kids. Clean drinking water would also be good!
- Walking paths past the old rta I have noticed a few wheel chairs and mobility scooters travelling up here and it doesn't look like safe travels
- A dedicated mountain bike park at Rocky Water Holes would bring local visitors and as more nomads move into the e-bike space this could be an easy sell for them to ride trails and feel like they've left the bitumen
- A push bike track from Narrandera to Leeton.
- How about tracks out to Barellan, Grongy, Matong and Boree Creek that all are achievable in a day or two, which would encourage people to base in Narrandera and bike out to these other smaller places and back in a day or to stay the night and come back next day? Would have multiple benefits to Narrandera, as well as the satellite towns.
- We don't want riff raft over here !
- It's too late.
- We could set up beer stations every few kms?
- NOW we're on the same page
- With a shandy Sam
- Like your style!

Cultural Plan Consultation - Surveys

Comments are as registered

- An air conditioned shed at Narrandera Tip to store and sell good reusable stuff being thrown out with money going to can assist /Bidgee Boxing /salvos etc
- Drinkable water. Park facilities for small children. Better accessibility to shops.
- A youth centre, senior citizen centre, Out of school hours centre, better water filtration, more street lighting and turning lanes out at Nallabooma.
- A venue for me to teach gymnastics to the local kids on weekends
- For people to appreciate how beautiful the little town truly is a little bit more
- Cemented footpaths on the northern side of town. Atm there is not a single safe footpath over this side of the railway line.
- Be able to get an appointment with a doctor on the same day.
- agree
- Got to be able to make the town an appealing destination for doctors with families to relocate here long term or permanently.
- What a great question very inspiring of a Council and really engaging.
- some safe footpaths would be wonderful xx
- Turn the old servo opposite the top pub into undercover markets coffee store etc.. With the new walk way from free camping area boom char lar \$\$\$\$\$\$
- privately owned unfortunately
- bugger
- Footpaths down our way and clean drinking water
- Cleaner water & a footpath for the residents North of the railway line
- A multipurpose sports facility with an Indoor heated pool.
- More funding towards prettying up and making it more tourist friendly of Grong Grong
- Clean , washable, drinkable water at a decent pressure!
- A heated pool year round at Barellan.
- Indoor go kart complex, with a Putt Putt golf course
- Or bowling alley and movie theatre. Something for people to enjoy on the weekend when the weather isn't so great or during holidays.
- CLEAN DRINKABLE WATER
- More employment, and industry development.
- Better drinking water, that you can't smell while you drink!
- Fix the water!
- Our road fixed in watermain street please
- Fix the water issues
- Just to point out for those having a dig... that's not whinging....a question was asked....that's my answer.
- Replacement of the after school care service you defunded last year. Accessible music/art programs for everyone. A playground that is suitable for toddlers, because at the moment the closest public one is in Leeton.
- yes a playground for toddlers would be good!!
- Yes after school care would be another great thing to have back in town.
- A heated pool
- CLEAN WATER
- Clear water
- water that you could drink

Cultural Plan Consultation - Surveys

Comments are as registered

- Transparency from Narrandera Council, Businesses that employ young people, An estate for retirees near the golf club, New industry and companies in town, A better appreciation for music and art.
- second that
- Clean Water
- Outreach programs targeted at youth!
- !!! you're onto something x
- Anyone interested in outreach for youth can join our group that is dedicated to opening a youth drop in centre in town. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/2681609678745306/?ref=share>
- Drinking water
- Pedestrian Xing on Cadel street for kids and elderly to cross into the park safely
- Agree
- Drinkable tap water
- Drug free
- Focus on the basics: improving roads, supplying beautiful water (minus smell and dirt) and more footpaths in town. A level path/walkway in every street should really be a given in an established town. Also stop planting trees on roadways and do a risk analysis before undertaking new tree plantings. We need drains that are ready for the next flood/heavy downpour to protect our Main Street shops and homes in streets in town. In my opinion Council focus on drawing business to town has failed in the past and will hit a brick wall for some time (COVID will not help) so suggest you change focus on the population who live here and pay rates, many of whom are mature aged and elderly with special needs....
- If they've failed to attract businesses then they should be working harder not giving up. We need new infrastructure and employment opportunities to prop up our population growth and retention
- Thanks for your reply and I respect your opinion and aims. However, I feel justified in thinking the rate payers should be Councils first priority as we (and the taxpayers through Govt grants) fund our Council activities and plans. Many of the businesses we have in town NOW are struggling! Perhaps I am jaded, but I have been involved in Council consultations in the past (e.g. How do we attract more visitors to town?) where Council has paid external Consultants to do much of these activities and we never hear of any results and not much changes. It is indeed a challenge for both Council and the Community to work out the Best activities to draw businesses to town however without sufficient services such as Medical and other ancillary services and infrastructure the town will keep as it is for some time. We have so much talent and expertise in town but those with significant experience are frustrated giving feedback that goes nowhere.
- I agree with you in principle but we need to face reality too!
- An over fifties village. Heated pool for year round therapy.

What are your ideas for a more creative Narrandera Shire?

- "The cult of art brings pride you can never have enough of it". More permanent local art displays, More advertisement of our amazing local produce and products available, More sustainable and environmentally friendly amenities available at our multitude of locations of natural resources available, Something more to celebrate and recognise our history as a town that respects, reflects and acknowledges all cultures along with our bush poets, Has anyone mentioned the tap water?
- Seats on The Common walking track, clean water, better road surfaces, more footpaths in town streets. Suggest, with respect, the provision of some parameters about what outcomes and feedback you are seeking!

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Comments are as registered

- Have a look at the exciting ads on TV for Deni at the moment. Could be some ideas there to encourage visitors? It is a brilliant advert.
- Working with all towns on promoting all their events
- Murals/sculptures by local artists
- The walking tracks through the wetlands maintained
- Everyone will be happier when we have clean drinkable water
- Vibrant clean tap water
- Keep water in Bundidgerry creek and beautify it
- Promotion of the history of all the towns and their history
- I agree with the comment of look at all ideas and complaints over last 5 years and act upon them.
- Some sculptural seats in the main St
- CLEAN WATER
- A variety of different workshops similar to the old TAFE courses for people to learn different crafts and trades; free outdoor music events supporting local artists such as Sundays in the Park during summer where people could bring their own chairs / blankets with food and drink available through mobile food vans; support for events in community halls and spaces across the Shire e.g. art exhibition at Grongy to coincide with an open garden day and an Earth Park walk; an Evonne Goolagong tennis day in Barellan; yellow tourist bike hire; shed murals in the towns and villages to give a lease of life to old tin and encourage visitors. So many opportunities if funding can be secured

What sort of entertainment would you like to see?

- Art.
- I would like to see our beautifully restored Narrandera Arts and Community Centre fully booked with great art to look at and enjoy. Also local art competitions with a variety of categories could be displayed beautifully as well.....so many options. it would be lovely to have something on all the time at our beautiful Arts & Community Centre and the exhibits could travel to the smaller towns' halls like Barellan for exhibitions there too. Don't think too small either National & International Art Competitions can be run through Banks and other national organisations such as the Ex-Servicemen's/RSL Clubs, Lions, RotaryIts about networking and effective partnering. You can skateboard pretty much anywhere but community projects build resilience in people, and these and other cultural activities, can have the potential to create a sense of belonging which is vital for this towns future.
- A music festival - outdoor venue, with themed times for young, teens, families, older residents. Some jazz, local pop artists, bands etc at times to suit the various spectator groups. The opera is another possibility. Like Victoria had "opera in the alps" a few years ago. Buses and coaches came from great distances to this, it was brilliant.
- Nature walks along the river with indigenous guides to point out things of interest, finishing with a campfire dinner, BBQ OR CAMP OVEN, and stories around the campfire. There must be some great stories from ancient times??
- Look on Michael Lyons sandhills site think he has something planned soon
- That is such an awesome idea !
- Years ago we went on a similar walking tour in Qld, and they supplied dinner in the evening around a campfire, with music and stories of the area. It was a memorable evening I have never forgotten.
- That sounds lovely. It would be incredible to have something similar in our beautiful area, great suggestion!

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Comments are as registered

- Indoor play centre for children who have birthdays in the winter and can't go to the pool or park when it's raining and freezing. Also just for something to do on a weekend or during school holidays. Maybe a bowling alley and movie theatre or even have drive in movies every couple of weekends, or go kart track or Putt Putt golf course. Music festival, after all we do have the biggest playable guitar in our town. Motorbike riding track/course for those that enjoy just riding for fun. Camp oven cook off on the river somewhere so adults and kids can get together and just have a good time by a fire cooking up a feast. We have a beautiful river and common area that could be utilised for things like fishing comps (following the rules of course).
- Music can involve every taste every age group and people feel better when they sing or listen to music they love. Suggestions: Wagga has a Conservatorium of Music - students/groups are always looking for venues to try out their talents on a willing audience. Why not try a night of 'Jazz in the Pub' or 'Pop & Pizza in the Pub' for the younger folks and combine a business like the Pizza shop to help their business too. Think about bringing young groups together from town to participate in these sessions. For example maybe a Singing Recital at the Theatre could also combine a singing/dancing number from our high school and primary schools choirs, ballet or music students etc. Maybe A Chamber Music recital in the Park in summer, in combination with any music students from town to give a number between performancesthe options are endless for music. For me classical music and opera is numero uno!
- Sounds great. Good thoughts there.
- Yours too! Music lovers thrive....
- Something that doesn't cost an arm and a leg that everyone can enjoy without it being a financial burden
- Just been browsing through Bill Gamage's book on Narrandera. would anyone like to write some plays, make videos etc about our town's history ...could be great for tourist but even better for everyone here to learn both our Wiradjuri heritage and everything that followed
- Country music weekend with chance for amateur music and to join in jam sessions!!
- I really enjoyed Theatre at the Train Station.....many years ago now but not long after it opened after the renovation. We sat in our cars.
- A good music concert
- Ten pin bowling, More craft stores like 'spotlight '.
- A child road sign awareness track for kids to learn and understand our road signs at the park. (Similar to Leeton Park)
- The return of a quality movie theatre.
- Open air movies maybe at Lake Talbot.
- Definitely Chris Hemsworth.
- Some that's fun for all ages and don't have to pay a cent
- Drive in movies
- Any music content
- Boogie on the Bidgee
- Something for the kids like the stall gift running or a music festival
- Comedy; live theatre; mini golf; live music; large sporting events; the large events such as the Rod Run, Heavy Horses weekend etc are great events
- Bush dancing
- Yes we have a great venue in the Pioneer Hall

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What sort of Art would you like to see more of?

- Benalla in rural Victoria has a mural festival every year, the result of which is approx.50 murals spread around town by some of the best artists in Australia. It brings tens of thousands (if not hundreds of thousands) to the area to view the art all year around. We have plenty of walls around town that could be utilised for something like this. It would be a boon for tourism, especially considering our location on 2 major highways.
- Agree we have been to Benalla and were very impressed. Add to that we stayed 2 nights and spent money in town. Should be no brainer for Councils to bring tourist dollars in.
- Grey Nomad's in training,
- Children/Youth art workshops and exhibitions by way of accessing volunteer artists to mentor/teach/support the young ones. Sculptures around the town and in tourist locations - tastefully done and with connections to our local area. And then sculpture self guided tours. A well designed and imaginative children's sensory playground and garden area (adults will enjoy too). An expansion and highlighting of Aboriginal Arts & Crafts but I don't know what this would look like - others in the community would be best placed to chat that through for possibilities. Shed artworks all around the place - like the silo trail but we start a local shed trail. Just my thoughts
- Why not showcase all of the artists of Narrandera? Bring everyone together, give them each a section where they can showcase their art. Whether it be on the water tower, the old bridge at Kooris, the train, the bridge at Rocky Water Holes or even the wall in the park. Love to see some graffiti
- Every lane way should have a mural. Especially the side of the Narrandera art gallery. Make it a tourist attraction, give people a reason to walk up and down East Street. Also, critically, ALL vacant or empty stores should have a window display. Doesn't matter if its art, history, special interests ANYTHING looks better than empty store fronts. Put pressure on building owners to beautify our street and give visitors something interesting to look at.
- Just so happens that there is a program about to get underway after a lot of planning and an interruption by COVID 19, But we are down to the last planning stages, We are having a meeting at the arts centre tomorrow and I would love all our talented local artists come along, Young or older we are going to create a platform to promote and protect your artworks and your rights as an artist, This is just the beginning of much greater things to come in the art area for our town, If you actually seen some of the works that are already in this town (but have never been shown) you would understand my passion for making this happen, It would be great to have all the support needed to get this underway.
- An exhibition of local indigenous art? And a small gallery, perhaps set up in an empty shop premises, to encourage local artists.
- I really like your idea of utilizing the empty shops to display art or items of interest. As they stand(empty for years) they present an image less than desirable! Good on you Judith!
- I'd like to see the Lockhart artist create a frill necked lizard either for each entrance to the town or one big one at the park to represent what Narrandera actually stands for .
- Finish the water tower would be good?
- Would be nice to see the water tower completed
- Local flora and fauna
- I am not indigenous so I cannot pretend to represent the Wiradjuri community but I would love to see an artwork showcasing Narrandera's Aboriginal story. The monument in the park isn't good enough, its a blank wall and when you have an ancient culture of art and storytelling we should have an appropriate representation of the true history of Narrandera, public sculptures along bush walk tracks, Paint our lane ways with murals.

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- I would like to see a nod to our Aboriginal heritage with a sculpture of a Lizard on the highway somewherealso a nod to our agricultural history (I am no artist) but love seeing old tractors and farm equipment, model of sheep etc which could be placed somewhere on the side of the highway into and out of town. I love metal sculptures they are durable and weather nicely with age and can be secured well. The kangaroo sculpture (or model) on the way into Leeton is gorgeous and makes me smile every time! Also I love the old pictures of Narrandera and some of our beautiful buildings (Lost Narrandera, our Heritage Museum, the Argus) these could be placed along the Main Street in the position where the original old picture was taken with a brief story of the building, or local building owner, that type of thing. Similar to Broken Hill Main Street, it encourages locals and tourists to stop and read and hopefully stay a little longer in beautiful Narrandera. The local picture trail which could include some of our most beautiful heritage buildings we have both listed and unlisted could have the same story posts with pictures of past era, for example the John O'Brien house etc. An architect friend of mine visited recently and was surprised Narrandera has not capitalized on the historical aspects of our region. I am sure Council could secure funding for a project of this nature.
- Please also like and follow the LCAIN page It means Local Community Art Installation Narrandera I would love nothing more then to have your support in this project <https://www.facebook.com/706730322764574/posts/3577625019008409/>
- Vibrant murals on old industrial sheds particularly in and around the town centre to brighten the surrounds and incorporated into the local walking trails
- In Port Macquarie there are fibreglass Koalas (about 700cm tall)scattered throughout the town sponsored by different clubs and organisations. It would be lovely if we had lizards which could double as seating. they are a great attraction in Port.

What are the great stories about Narrandera Shire, the place and it's people, that you would like heard, things that you would never want to change and that you think should be remembered?

What are the great things that have been achieved, our legends, good, bad, historic or hysterical?

- Michael Lyons should be remembered as a superb Aboriginal artist with a display of his beautiful work where it can be seen and enjoyed by everyone. I would also like to see an exhibition of his work staged in Narrandera at the wonderful art exhibition centre. I am sure visitors would flock to it if it is promoted by the Visitors Centre.
- There are some wonderful main street and village buildings; fabulous waterways; relaxing bushwalks; quaint country pubs; an extensive agricultural industry; enjoyable events and lovely people with incredible stories
- The chronological story of how our town came to be and then the pics that go along with the story. Also the stories and pics of the many beautiful buildings, Lake Talbot Complex, our Sports and Show grounds and how sites have changed (in look and purpose for some) over the years. Yes, people who have had local, regional, state, national and/or international success in their chosen field or passion - artists, authors, sports, musicians, theatrical, commercial, sciences, leaders, others?
- All towns and regions have fabulous stories from the past, indigenous stories from ancient times, stories of early white settlers, the Chinese immigrants, etc. stories of heroes black and white who fought in so many conflicts, mostly in the 20th century.
- The great sports people and our Dame Marie
- You HAVE to include Les Paterson's poem right?!!!

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- There's a living legend in Narrandera Now. Nobody can die in Narrandera without arranging Mary to play the organ at the funeral, plus weddings, social gatherings, etc, Australian woman of the years.
- So many stories from dreamtime and onwards, Stories about the poison waterhole creek, murdering island, the Chinese gardens and king fang, Peoples stories about their lives growing up here. Stories from down the hill, Edward flood Era, Stories of brothels bars (maybe some are just stories but make great entertainment, Stories about all the shops and business houses over the years, There has even been some unexplained deaths over the years, The story about the lion loose in the streets, Stories about sports and people in the arts that grew up here,
- Poison waterholes and the massacre are good ones. Interesting and so sad