MAKE OUR PLACE

Your Place

BALONNE SHIRE
QUEENSLAND

willkommen

ನಲ್‌ಬರಮ HAERE MAI پخيري

assalamualikum ようこそ

céad míle fáilte थांझु सुऔण छ आम्‌रो कुडौट्‌टौं

добредојден 환영합니다 apnake swagato jana i`

dobrodošli *selamat datang*

BIENVENUE

Mayor's Welcome Message

There is no such thing as a stranger in 'our place' - just people we are yet to meet.

Whether you want to meander leisurely or experience all we have to offer – from a rich agricultural heritage, some of the original tracks of the Cobb & Co coaches, the famous painted silos, unique watering holes and even a massive wombat – we are more than happy for you to make our place your place for as long as you like.

St George, Dirranbandi, Bollon, Thallon, Hebel, Nindigully and Mungindi make up the St George Region. Uniquely, all our communities are situated by a river so if fishing appeals to you there will never be a better place to stop and drop a line.

Our Visitor Information Centre, located in St George, is a must first point of call. Here, our friendly and well-informed staff will ensure that you get the best out of your stay with us.

Samantha O'Toole
Mayor

Acknowledgement of Country

Balonne Shire Council would like to acknowledge the Bigambul, Mandandanji, Gunggari, Kooma, Yuwaalaraay/Euahlayi, and Gamilaraay peoples who are the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we work, live and play. We would like to pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging.

All the facts about our region

LIFESTYLE

Short commutes, and everything you need in walking distance to give you the work life balance you crave.

POPULATION

Our total population is 4,300

St George: 2,400 Dirranbandi: 640
Thallon: 250 Bollon: 220
Mungindi: 140 Hebel: 70

AVERAGE AGE

The average age of a Balonne Shire resident is 38 years – we are a relatively young shire, ideal for young professionals and families.

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

A progressive and pro-business Council, minimal competition, favourable planning laws, established businesses for sale, digital connectivity, and ease of business start-up – opportunities abound!

LIVEABILITY

Stunning waterways, Library Hub, public and private health and education options, national parks, sporting facilities, plus festivals and events run by vibrant community groups are why you should make our place your place.

HEALTH SERVICES

Our hospitals, and other local health care providers offer a range of services including allied health and dental.

WELCOMING COMMUNITY

We can't wait to welcome you to our place, home to people from over 18 different countries as well the traditional custodians of our land – the Bigambul, Mandandanji, Gunggari, Kooma, Yuwaalaraay/ Euahlayi and Gamilaraay peoples.

SERVICE HUB

As the main centre in Balonne Shire, St George's central location makes it an ideal service hub for South West QLD and North West NSW.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING

The shire offers great affordable housing options with the median house price in the Balonne $225,000 compared to the Queensland Median price of $590,000. Median rent is $270/week in our shire compared to $500/week in Greater Brisbane*.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Highly skilled and semi-skilled permanent and seasonal jobs are on offer in agriculture, horticulture, health, education, trades, professional services, and retail.

EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

The Balonne's education options continue to expand, and we now boast a Country Universities Centres offering tertiary and vocational education opportunities.

*As of 31 March 2022

Things to help get you settled in

TRANSLATING SERVICES

How to access an immediate phone interpreter If you are a non-English speaker

- Call Translating and Interpreting Service (TIS) National on 131 450.
- An automated prompt will ask you which language you need. Please state the language that you require.
- When you are connected to a TIS National operator, say the language you need again.
- Stay on the line while the operator finds an available interpreter for you.

The operator will connect you with an interpreter in the language you asked for. You will be asked to provide:

- Your name
- The name of the organisation you need to contact
- The phone number of the organisation you need to contact.

Stay on the line while the operator connects you and the interpreter through to the organisation.

ELECTRICITY

It is the Tenants responsibility to connect the electricity once you have moved in to either a rented property or bought property unless otherwise stated by your landlord or Real Estate office. Ergon Energy is the only electricity provider in the Balonne Shire.

Please visit **ergon.com.au** or call 13 10 46 to connect the electricity.

DIGITAL CONNECTIVITY

St George has mobile phone coverage from Telstra and Optus networks. In the surrounding towns in the Shire, the Telstra Next G network is the only network within a small radius of the town.

St George and Dirranbandi have fast, reliable internet services which will be extended to Thallon and Bollon in 2022.

INTERNET SERVICE

	ADSL2+	MOBILE BROADBAND	NBN FIXED LINE	SUPER-FAST FSG FIXED WIRELESS UP TO 100MBPS	NBN SATELLITE
ST GEORGE	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
DIRRANBANDI	✓	✓	-	✓	✓
HEBEL	✓	✓	-	✓	✓
THALLON	-	✓	-	LATE 2022	✓
BOLLON	-	✓	-	LATE 2022	✓
NINDIGULLY	-	-	-	✓	-
MUNGIDI	-	-	-	✓	-

Rates

- Balonne Shire Council issue rates half yearly being mid-August and mid-February
- Rate are due 30 days from date of issue whereby a 10% discount is granted on general rates and most utility charges
- Interest is calculated at a rate of 9.83% compounding on daily rests on all outstanding amounts in accordance with the Reserve Bank of Australia
- All changes to postal details for the service of rate notices must be provided in writing to Council
- Payment plans are available for all property owners who wish to enter into a payment arrangement for any outstanding amounts
- All agreed payment arrangements that are implemented into Council's systems do not accumulate interest on outstanding amounts
- Rate payments can be made by cheque or cash at the Council office at 112-118 Victoria Street St George Qld, payments can also be made by credit card over the phone. Should you wish to set a direct debit payment this will need to be a BPAY payment set up through NetBank.
- The Balonne Shire Council has retained the services of Recoveries & Reconstruction (Aust) Pty Ltd for the collection of outstanding rates
- Receiving hours for payments and inquiries is Monday – Friday 8:45am to 5:00pm *(Excluding Public Holidays)*

Alternatively, you may contact Council on 4620 8888 and speak to our rates officer.

Waste Management

Balonne Shire has a two-bin system, residents have a 240L bin for general waste collected weekly, and a 240L bin for recycling collected fortnightly.

The following items can't be recycled:

- plastic bags *(they contaminate recycling and jam machinery)*
- polystyrenes such as meat trays and foam packaging
- light globes, mirrors and window glass
- crockery, drinking glasses and Pyrex
- sharps and syringes
- nappies

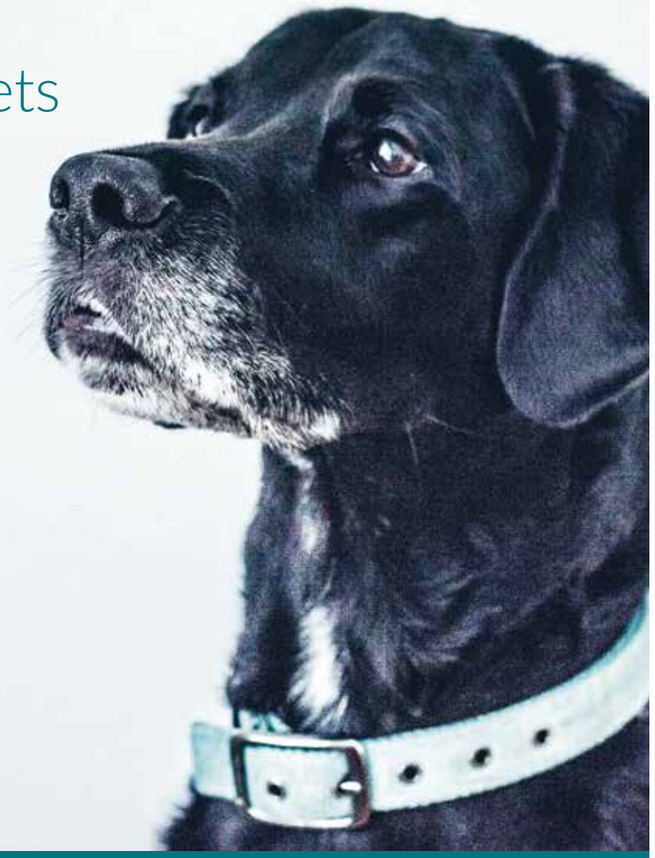
Examples of items we recycle include:

- aluminium and steel tins/cans
- aerosol cans
- glass bottles and jars
- plastic soft-drink and water bottles
- plastic food containers, tubs and trays
- juice and milk cartons and bottles
- 'Tetra Pak' drink containers.
- newspapers and magazines *(staples are fine)*
- advertising material (remove plastic wrap)
- phone books
- egg cartons
- envelopes *(even those with clear plastic windows)*
- cardboard boxes.

	HOURS	GENERAL WASTE	BATTERIES	OIL	RECYCLING BINS	SCRAP METAL	CONCRETE WASTE	GREEN WASTE
ST GEORGE LANDFILL Commissioners Point Road Entry via Kemp Road	7:30–5:30, six days closed Wednesdays	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
DIRRANBANDI LANDFILL Whyenbah Road	unmanned site	✓	-	-	-	✓	-	✓
***HEBEL** Castlereagh Highway	unmanned site	✓	✓	✓	-	✓	✓	✓
THALLON Carnarvon Highway	unmanned site	✓	-	-	-	✓	-	✓
NINDIGULLY Carnarvon Highway	unmanned site	✓	-	-	-	✓	✓	✓
BOLLON Balonne Highway	unmanned site	✓	-	-	-	✓	✓	✓

** Pit only – No separation*

Pets



The Balonne Shire is great place to own a pet, with plenty of open spaces to exercise your dog, pet-friendly businesses, a well-equipped local veterinary practice, and many rentals that will accept your furry friends too.

If you already own a dog, you are required to register it within 14 days of moving to the Balonne Shire. For more information on pet ownership please visit balonne.qld.gov.au/community/animals.

HOW TO REGISTER YOUR DOGS AND PRICES

Registration can be arranged from your local council office situated in St George

DOG ENTIRE *(not microchipped)*	$80
DOG ENTIRE *(microchipped or born prior to 2008)*	$60
DOG DESEXED *(not microchipped, born after 2008)*	$50
DOG DESEXED *(microchipped or born prior to 2008)*	$40

There is a discount period of 2 months after the new financial year.

Fishing

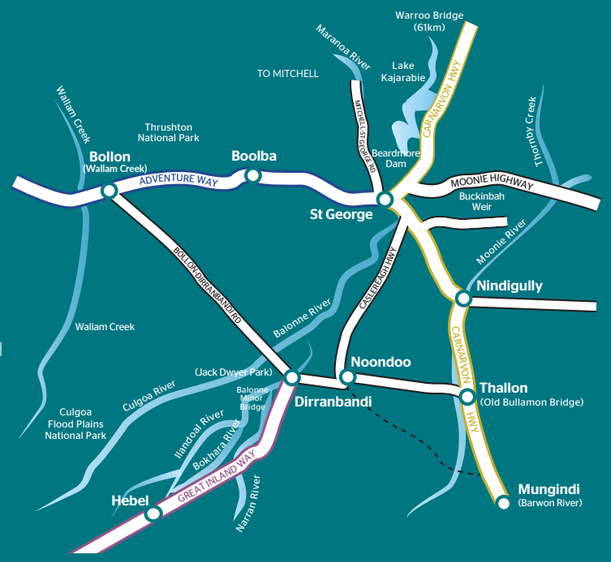
Yellowbelly (Golden Perch): Bronze to slate green above, sides golden olive shading to yellow or white below. Best eating fish of the western streams. The flesh is firm, white with good flavour. Average Size: [can reach 23 kg in QLD]. Best Bait: Shrimp, worms & prawns. Bag Limit: 10. Minimum Size: 30 cm.

Murray Cod: Green above and pale cream below. The tail and dorsal fins are covered with many green spots. Average Size: 8 kg-35 kg. Best Bait: Small fish, do not use carp. Bag Limit: 2. Minimum Size: 60 cm.

Yabbies: Blue Claw: Body is usually blue-brown, native to Queensland. Egg carrying females and young must be returned to the water. Bag Limit: 100. Red Claw are not found in St George Region.

Riverbanks can become inaccessible and very boggy during and after wet weather with access being restricted for up to two weeks.

Not all fishing hot spots are designated camping locations, so pull up for the day at these spots to unwind and wait for the fish to bite. There are limited or no facilities at these locations. Drought and below average rainfall can affect water levels and impact fishing at these locations.



PLEASE NOTE: Carp (Cyprinus Carpio) can be found in our waterways. Carp must not be returned to the water alive or dead. Using carp for any reason, such as for eating or use as fertiliser, is not permitted in Queensland.

Sport & Recreation

JOIN A TEAM OR CLUB

Whether it is league, union, cricket, netball, tennis or triathlon – the Balonne Shire has a team for you! The region is home to sporting teams and clubs for children and adults that can help you stay fit, meet new friends and become a part of the local community.

Swimming

- Dirranbandi Community Pool
- St George Swimming Pool
  - St George Amateur Swim Club
  - St George Adult Night Swimming

Rugby

- St George Rugby Union Club
  - St George Frillnecks Rugby Union Club + Frillies Fillies
- St George Junior + Senior Rugby League
- Dirranbandi Junior Rugby League

Golf

- Dirranbandi Golf Club
- St George Golf Club

Tennis

- Boolba Tennis Club
- Bollon Tennis Club
- St George Tennis Club
- Dirranbandi Tennis Club

Horse Sports

- Campdraft
- Pony Club *Bollon, Dirranbandi, St George*
- Stock Horse Associations
- Rodeos
- St George & Dirranbandi Show

Other events, sports & clubs

- Park Run
- St George Triathlon Club
- Netball – social & competitive
- Bowls
- Gym
- Nindigully Sports Community
- In The Box Boxing Club
- Cricket – Junior & Senior
- St George Sport and Recreation

HIT THE WATER

When the temperatures soar, there's no place better to relax than on the banks of the Balonne, or behind a ski boat on one of region's water-ways. Fishing, boating, water-skiing and camping are all popular past-times. The winter months are the perfect time to drop in a line, or go for a walk or run along the river. You can also swap the coffee-coloured depths of our rivers and creeks for the pristine waters of the St George and Dirranbandi Pools or hot springs located in Mungindi and St George.

Transport

AIR

Regional Express (Rex) Airlines provide a twice-weekly air service, which will get you to St George from Brisbane, Toowoomba, Cunnamulla and Thargomindah. There are 2 flights per week on a Wednesday and Sunday. In addition, two hours' drive north in Roma there are daily Rex Airlines flights into Brisbane, with car hire facilities on offer. For bookings and/or more information call 13 17 13 or visit **rex.com.au**.

To fly via Qantas, Moree is two and a half hours south with direct flights from Sydney and car hire facilities, while Brisbane West Wellcamp airport near Toowoomba is four hours east with car hire facilities available.

CAR HIRE

There are currently no car hire companies operating within the Balonne Shire. The nearest available car hire is from Roma, 2 hours' drive north of St George.

St George now has a ride-booking service available which travels within a 2-5km radius in St George Town. The service also can travel from St George to Roma, Dalby, Toowoomba and Brisbane. For bookings please contact 07 4625 1603 and info@broadsafecare.com.au.

Please note there is no taxi service in and between the towns of the Balonne Shire.

BUS

Murray's provide a bus service between Toowoomba and St George via the Moonie Highway three days per week. Two days per week it continues on to Lighting Ridge. Murray's also provide a service from Toowoomba to St George via the Gore Highway which then continues on to Cunnamulla.

View the timetable and book online at: **murrays.com.au/express-services/toowoomba-to-st-george-timetable**

Churches that service the Balonne Shire

CHURCH	ADDRESS	CONTACT	SERVICES
BUSH DISCIPLES Michael Brumpton	72 Barlee Street, St George 4487	(07) 4625 1006 contact@bushdisciples.church **bushdisciples.church**	St George Dirranbandi Begonia
RIVERLIFE CHURCH OF CHRIST Derek Schiller	276-296 Alfred Street, St George 4487	0427 412 013 admin@rcoc.com.au **rcoc.com.au**	St George Dirranbandi
HARVEST POINT CHURCH ST GEORGE Jessie and Amber Richardson	10 Hill Street, St George 4487	0413 856 671 inc.stgeorge@gmail.com **fb.com/hpcstgeorge**	St George
ST PATRICK'S PARISH ST GEORGE Fr Salvador Fernandes	66 Victoria Street, St George 4487	(07) 4625 3021 balonneparish@bigpond.com **twb.catholic.org.au/church/66-victoria-street-st-george**	St George Dirranbandi Bollon Hebel Thallon
THE ANGLICAN PARISH OF ST GEORGE with Dirranbandi Warden: Diane Massurit	133-135 Victoria Street, St George 4487	(07) 4625 3044 stgeorgeanglican@bigpond.com **anglicanchurchsq.org.au/parishes/the-anglican-parish-of-st-george-with-dirrinbandi**	St George Dirranbandi
ST GEORGE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH Mr Victor Weber	56 Grey Street, St George 4487	(07) 4625 3015 dwe72153@bigpond.net.au	St George
KINGS CHURCH ST GEORGE Kirst Waters	100 Arthur Street, St George 4487	(07) 5593 4233 kirsty.waters@kings.org.au **fb.com/kingschurchsg**	St George

St George

From the moment you arrive, St George relaxes the senses in all the right ways. Perched on the banks of the mighty Balonne River, it is the perfect base to make your place, in the beautiful Balonne Shire.

MAKING ST GEORGE YOUR PLACE

- The Balonne River, is the perfect spot to relax and drop a line in or, go for a walk or jog along the St George Riverbank Walkway where you can spot local wildlife like kangaroos, and our impressive array of local birdlife, or enjoy some high adrenaline fun in the form of water skiing and boating – popular summertime pursuits. There's also a great local pool, and the St George BATHS (Balonne Artesian Thermal Hot Springs) where you can soak in artesian waters reputed to have healing properties.
- The river, and other waterways that traverse the Balonne Shire provide the lifeblood to a diverse array of irrigated crops including cotton, grapes, onions and other opportunistic horticulture crops, while dry land cropping, beef, sheep and wool production are all supported by the diverse, and at times rugged natural environment.
- In addition to its natural beauty, and thriving agricultural industry, St George is equipped with great health, and education services as well as a bustling town center where you can find great eateries serving delicious food and coffee, and a friendly range of local retail stores stocking everything you need to start, and support your new life here.
- As the regional centre, St George boasts a well-equipped Local Hospital and Medical Centre that provide access to GP, emergency, and allied health services. The St Geoge State School, St George State High School, and St Patrick's Catholic School have all your families education needs covered, and the exciting Country University Centre located at The Hub offers access to a huge array of tertiary and vocational study options.

SERVICES	OPENING HOURS
BALONNE SHIRE COUNCIL 112-118 Victoria Street, St George 4487 (07) 4620 8888 • council@balonne.qld.gov.au • **balonne.qld.gov.au**	**Mon-Fri:** 8:45am–5pm
CARE BALONNE ASSOCIATION INC. 32 Henry Street, St George 4487 • (07) 4625 5460 • cdo@carebalonne.com	**Mon-Fri:** 8:30am–4:30pm
FIELD SOLUTIONS GROUP (INTERNET SERVICES PROVIDER) (07) 8988 3382 • **fieldsolutions-group.com/balonne**	
ST GEORGE LIBRARY SERVICE 112 Victoria Street, St George 4487 (07) 4625 3375 • stgeorge.library@balonne.qld.gov.au	**Mon,Tues,Thurs:** 9am–1pm **Wed, Fri:** 9am–4.30pm Sat: 9am–12pm
VISITOR INFORMATION CENTRE 114 St Georges Terrace, St George 4487 (07) 4620 8877 • vic@balonne.qld.gov.au • **fb.com/stgeorgeandsurrounds**	**Mon,Tues,Thurs:** 9am–1pm **Wed, Fri:** 9am–4.30pm **Sat:** 9am–12pm
ST GEORGE SWIMMING POOL 148 – 154 Victoria Street, St George 4487 • (07) 4625 3416	**Mon,Tues,Thurs, Fri:** 5:30am-7:30am; 10am-12pm; 3pm-6pm **Wed:** 5:30am-7:30am; 10am-12pm; 3pm-5:30pm **Sat, Sun:** 10am-12pm, 3pm-6pm
ST GEORGE ABORIGINAL HOUSING COMPANY 90 The Terrace Street, St George 4487 (07) 4625 4160 • stgahc-housing@bigpond.com • **fb.com/StGAbHousing**	**Mon:** 8:30am–4.30pm **Tues–Thur:** 8:30am–5pm **Fri:** 8:30am–3pm
POST OFFICE 99 Victoria Street, St George 4487 • (07) 4625 1642	**Mon-Fri:** 9am–5pm

EDUCATION

BALONNE KINDERGARTEN
144-146 Victoria Street, St George 4487
(07) 4625 3923 • bkindergarten@bigpond.com
candk.asn.au/center/balonne-kindergarten

NCC EARLY LEARNERS
Kenny Lane, St George 4487
(07) 4625 1830 • stgeorge@nccearlylearners.com.au
nccearlylearners.com.au/stgeorge

SUNRISE PLAYGROUP
Cnr Grey Street & Alfred Street, St George 4487 • (07) 4620 8333
fb.com/Sunrise-Playgroup-Family-Support-Group-ST-George-QLD-209804669148075

PRIMARY SCHOOLS

ST GEORGE STATE SCHOOL
20-40 Grey Street, St George 4487
(07) 4620 8333 • the.principal@stgeorgess.eq.edu.au
stgeorgess.eq.edu.au

ST PATRICK'S
30 Balonne Street, St George 4487
(07) 4625 3058 • stgeorge@twb.catholic.edu.au
stgeorge.catholic.edu.au

SECONDARY SCHOOLS

ST GEORGE STATE HIGH SCHOOL
2 Victoria Street, St George 4487
(07) 4620 8222 • admin@stgeorgeshs.eq.edu.au
stgeorgeshs.eq.edu.au

REAL ESTATE

RAY WHITE RURAL
7 Grey Street, St George 4487
(07) 4625 3531 • susan.schwerin@raywhite.com
raywhiteruralstgeorge.com.au

ELDERS REAL ESTATE
189 Grey Street, St George 4487
(07) 4570 9100 • brendan.devine@elders.com.au
eldersrealestate.com.au

MAIN COMMUNITY GROUPS

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
PO Box 585, St George 4487
(07) 4625 1660 • admin@stgeorgecoc.org.au
fb.com/StGeorgeAndDistrictChamberOfCommerce

QCWA ST GEORGE
PO Box 518, St George 4487 • (07) 4625 2126
fb.com/QCWA-St-George-133618307177815/

ST GEORGE LIONS CLUB
fb.com/St-George-Lions-Club-Qld-Australia-472111179586087/

ROTARY CLUB OF ST GEORGE
PO Box 198, St George 4487 • 0417 799 362
fb.com/rotaryclubofstgeorged9630

For information on all community groups in the Shire please visit
mycommunitydirectory.com.au/Queensland/Balonne

GROCERIES	OPENING HOURS
IGA 96–98 Victoria Street, St George 4487 (07) 4625 1777	**Mon–Wed, Fri:** 8am–7pm **Thurs:** 8am–8pm **Sat:** 8am–5pm **Sun:** 9am–4pm
FOODWORKS 88 Victoria Street, St George 4487 (07) 4625 3404 manager@webstersfoodworks.com.au **stgeorge.myfoodworks.com.au**	**Mon–Wed, Fri:** 8am–6:30pm **Thurs:** 8am–7pm **Sat:** 8am–5pm **Sun:** 9am–1pm

BANKING

COMMONWEALTH BANK
15 Henry Street, St George 4487 • (07) 4625 3599

SUNCORP BANK
84 The Terrace, St George 4487

NAB
5 Henry Street, St George 4487

WESTPAC
92 The Terrace, St George 4487 • (07) 4620 8066

HEALTH AND EMERGENCY SERVICES
in an emergency please call 000 or 112 from a mobile

ST GEORGE HOSPITAL
Victoria Street, St George 4487 • (07) 4620 2222

ST GEORGE MEDICAL CENTRE
116 Alfred Street, St George 4487
(07) 4625 5344 • reception@stgmed.com.au • **stgmed.com.au**

GOONDIR HEALTH
127 Victoria Street, St George 4487
(07) 4625 5040 • **goondir.org.au**

ST GEORGE FAMILY DENTAL
14 Henry StreetSt George 4487 • (07) 4625 4926

ST GEORGE PHARMACY
90 Victoria Street, St George 4487 • (07) 4625 3469

ST GEORGE POLICE
32 St Georges Terrace, St George 4487 • (07) 4620 3033
Non-Urgent: 131 444 • **Crimestoppers:** 1800 333 000

ST GEORGE FIRE STATION
37/39 Henry Street, St George 4487 • (07) 4671 8112

ST GEORGE SES
(07) 4592 5230 • **ses.qld.gov.au**

QUEENSLAND AMBULANCE SERVICES
62 Victoria Street, St George 4487

TO VOLUNTEER FOR THE RURAL FIRE SERVICE: If you are interested in joining a brigade and are unsure of which brigade is closest to you, start by filling in the Volunteering Expression of Interest form on **ruralfire.qld.gov.au** or contacting our local Rural Fire Service Area Office in Roma on **RFSQ.Roma@qfes.qld.gov.au** or call 4578 0045. If you know the brigade you would like to join, contact the First Officer to discuss membership.

TO VOLUNTEER FOR THE SES: Please complete the form on the website or contact our local SES team.

Key Events:

BATTLE OF THE BALONNE
EASTER IN THE VINES
ST GEORGE SHOW
ST GEORGE RACES
YELLOWBELLY COUNTRY MUSIC FESTIVAL
ST GEORGE FISHING COMPETITION
ST GEORGE POLOCROSSE
ST GEORGE 399
CAROLS ON THE BALONNE
CHRISTMAS CARNIVAL
WELCOME PARTY

Key Attractions:

RIVERSANDS WINERY
UNIQUE EGG
ST GEORGE SELF DRIVE COTTON TOUR
SANDYTOWN RIVER CRUISE
ST GEORGE RIVERBANK WALKWAY
BIRDWATCHING TOUR
COTTON FARM, WINERY AND HERITAGE TOURS
BEARDMORE DAM
ST GEORGE PILOTS MEMORIAL
MURRAY COD

For more information please scan the QR code

Dirranbandi & Hebel

WELCOME TO DIRRANBANDI

South west of St George, Dirranbandi is a small country town that comes alive through the cotton harvest months. If you have heard of the famous Cubbie Station, then you will be interested to know that the largest irrigated cotton farm in the southern hemisphere is only a stone's throw away from this small town. As you drive into Dirranbandi, you'll pass by the town's levee bank which has famously saved the town from flooding on a number of occasions.

There's more to Dirranbandi than just cotton though, and this close-knit community is home to several very active sporting and community organizations like the Dirranbandi Show Society which does much more than just organize the local agricultural show, and the Dirranbandi Frogs, the Queensland Rugby League's 2021 Club of the Year – just to name a few.

- Although small, Dirranbandi has a busy little main street including, a few nice spots to grab a good country meal. If you're looking for a quiet spot to picnic, throw in a line, or stretch your legs, then head to the Jack Dwyer Memorial Park on the edge of town or the historic River and Rail precinct.
- This proud little town is serviced by the Dirranbandi Multipurpose Health Service, which includes a hospital, GP practice, Home and Community Care facility and hosts a range of visiting specialists and allied health professionals. Your children's education needs are covered by the fully equipped Dirranbandi P-10 State School, as well as a kindergarten and childcare centre.

MAKE HEBEL YOUR PLACE

It feels like time stands still in the little town of Hebel, were tales of the Ned Kelly Gang, Cobb & Co Coaches, and dance halls still swirl in the air. Hebel's history is told by the public art piece, the Hebel Historical Circle where, out of the red earth, tall timber posts hover over illustrated signs; each telling their own story of Hebel's history. Complete with play equipment, there is something to keep everyone occupied.

- The town was first known as Kelly's Point. Dan Kelly and Steve Hart, members of the infamous Ned Kelly gang are said to have lived here in secret.
- Hebel Hotel is a gem of a country pub. Colourful artwork by Lightning Ridge's famous artist, John Murray adorns the pub's exterior while inside its decked out with recycled furniture made from reclaimed bush finds. It's the kind of quirky place you'll want to linger to get to know the locals over a cold drink.
- Hebel General Store and Caravan Park has kept much of its original 1890s dancehall character and offers amazing home cooked cakes, desserts, and meals, as well as supplies, and even doubles as the local post office.

SERVICES	OPENING HOURS
RURAL TRANSACTION CENTRE *includes Library, Visitors information centre, government services* 35/37 Railway Street, Dirranbandi 4486 (07) 4625 8411 • **fb.com/DirrabHub**	**Mon–Fri:** 9am–3:30pm
DIRRANBANDI POST OFFICE *includes banking* 20 Railway Street, Dirranbandi 4486 (07) 4625 8211	**Mon–Fri:** 9am–5pm
HEBEL LIBRARY William Street, Hebel 4486 • (07) 4625 8937	**Wed:** 12pm–6pm
HEBEL POST OFFICE *based out of the Hebel General Store* 31-33 William Street, Hebel 4486 (07) 4625 0920 hebelstore4486@bigpond.com **fb.com/pages/Hebel-General-Store/261415013869426**	**Mon–Sun:** 6:30am–8:30pm

EDUCATION

KINDY / PLAYGROUP / DAYCARE

DIRRANBANDI PLAYGROUP
2-5 Jane street, Dirranbandi 4486 • (07) 4625 8555

C&K DIRRANBANDI COMMUNITY KINDERGARTEN
16 Moore Street, Dirranbandi 4486
(07) 4625 8458 • dirranbandi@candk.asn.au
candk.asn.au/dirranbandi

SCHOOLS

DIRRANBANDI P-10 STATE SCHOOL
Jane Street, Dirranbandi 4486
(07) 4625 8555 • principal@dirranbandiss.eq.edu.au
dirranbandiss.eq.edu.au

HEBEL STATE SCHOOL
Maud Street, Hebel 4486
(07) 4625 0938 • the.principal@hebelss.eq.edu.au
hebelss.eq.edu.au

HEALTH AND EMERGENCY SERVICES
in an emergency please call 000 or 112 from a mobile

DIRRANBANDI HOSPITAL
Corner of Jane and Crothers Streets, Dirranbandi, 4486
(07) 4625 8222

DIRRANBANDI MEDICAL CENTRE
Corner of Jane and Crothers Streets, Dirranbandi, 4486
(07) 4625 8266

DIRRANBANDI POLICE STATION
Kirby Street, Dirranbandi 4486
(07) 4625 8200
Non-Urgent: 131 444 • **Crimestoppers:** 1800 333 000

DIRRANBANDI RURAL FIRE BRIGADE
4 Cowildi Street, Dirranbandi 4486 • (07) 4671 8112

QUEENSLAND AMBULANCE SERVICES
Corner of Jane and Crothers Streets, Dirranbandi, 4486
(07) 4625 8222

DIRRANBANDI PHARMACY
50 Railway street, Dirranbandi 4486 • (07) 4620 7060

MAIN COMMUNITY GROUPS

DIRRANBANDI PROGRESS ASSOCIATION
PO Box 29, Dirranbandi 4486
fb.com/Dirranbandi-Progress-Association-150106825723098/

QCWA DIRRANBANDI
22 Kirby Street, Dirranbandi 4486
0459 532 624 • dirranbandicwa@outlook.com
fb.com/qcwadirranbandi

For information on all community groups in the Shire please visit
mycommunitydirectory.com.au/Queensland/Balonne

Key Events:

DIRRANBANDI SHOW
DIRRANBANDI POLOCROSSE
CHRISTMAS IN THE SHOWGROUNDS
DIRRANBANDI FISHING COMPETITION
DIRRANBANDI CAMPDRAFT
HEBEL CAMPDRAFT
HEBEL SEAFOOD NIGHT

Key Attractions:

CUBBIE STATION
JACK DYER PARK
RIVER AND RAIL PRECINCT
TOM DANCEY STATUE
JOHN MURRAY ART AT HEBEL HOTEL
BOKHARA RIVER
CULGOA FLOODPLAIN NATIONAL PARK
HEBEL HISTORICAL CIRCLE
DIRRANBANDI OUTBACK TOURS
DIRRANBANDI BAKERY
HEBEL HOTEL

For more information please scan the QR code

Thallon & Mungindi

MAKE THALLON YOUR PLACE

Signaling your approach into Thallon, are the giant grain silos, featuring the spectacular 'Watering Hole' mural painted in July 2017. Thallon is surrounded by prime grain growing country and draws grain in from Weengallon, Nindigully, Mungindi, Dirranbandi, and Thallon. The Thallon district is also known for its beef, sheep, and lamb production.

- Thallon's Francis Hotel is ready and waiting to satisfy your appetite for food and local history. Serving homemade delights and barista made espresso coffee, let your taste buds dance amongst the artefacts and photos of the pub. It also acts as the town store, information centre and post office.
- As well as being full of Murray Cod and Yellow Belly fish, the picturesque Moonie River attracts many species of birds, providing a real treat for keen birdwatchers. The area is also home to a population of the critically endangered Northern Hairy Nosed Wombats, which you can learn more about by visiting the statue known as William the Wombat.
- When you're not busy fishing, or relaxing in the Thallon Town Park, you can turn your hand to cricket and join the Thallon-Daymar Drop Bears for a game from October to March at the Thallon Recreation Grounds

WELCOME TO MUNGINDI

The unique town of Mungindi straddles the Queensland-New South Wales border and the Barwon River – it has two police stations on either side of the border, and this quirky town runs on two time zones in the warmer months due to eastern daylight saving time!

- Things might be a little different in Mungindi, due to its unique location but its still a great place to put down roots in a rich agricultural district that produces cotton, wheat, cereal crops, wool, sheep and beef cattle. There's a pre-school, State School and Catholic School to take care of your children's education, and plenty of beautiful natural attractions to enjoy year-round.
- In your down time, enjoy a soak in the mineral-rich waters of Mungindi's Hot Artesian Pool, a great spot to relax and rejuvenate. The iconic sandstone Two Mile Hotel on the northern outskirts of town is another great spot to unwind and meet the locals, over a counter meal, and a few friendly games of pool or you can pop over the border to the Jolly Swagman, the first (or last) pub in New South Wales and do it all again

Key Events:

GRAZING AT THE WATERHOLE DINNER
MUNGINDI SHOW
MUNGINDI RACES
FIJI NATIONAL DAY CELEBRATIONS

Key Attractions:

THALLON GRAINCORP SILOS
WATERING HOLE MURAL
GIANT NORTHERN HAIRY NOSE WOMBAT STATUE
ANZAC MEMORIAL
ONE TON POST
TWO MILE HOTEL
MCGREEVER RECREATIONAL GROUNDS
FRANCIS HOTEL
LOCAL MURALS
MUNGINDI HOT ARTESIAN POOL
BARWON RIVER PARKLAND

For more information please scan the QR code

SERVICES	OPENING HOURS
THALLON POST OFFICE *based out of Francis Hotel* 16-18 Pine Street, Thallon 4497 (07) 4625 9147	**Mon–Fri:** 10am–12pm
THALLON LIBRARY William Street, Thallon 4497 (07) 4625 9103	**Wed:** 9am–12pm; 1pm–4pm

EDUCATION

THALLON STATE SCHOOL
15 Henry Street, Thallon 4497 • (07) 4625 9139
principal@thallonss.eq.edu.au • **thallonss.eq.edu.au**

MAIN COMMUNITY GROUPS

THALLON PROGRESS ASSOCIATION
PO Box 30, Thallon 4497

QCWA THALLON DAYMAR
47 William Street, Thallon 4497 • 0459 532 624
thallondaymarcwa@gmail.com • **fb.com/ThallonDaymar**

MUNGINDI PROGRESS ASSOCIATION
PO Box 123, Mungindi NSW 2406
mungindiprogress@gmail.com • **fb.com/mungindiprogress**

For information on all community groups in the Shire please visit **mycommunitydirectory.com.au/Queensland/Balonne**

HEALTH AND EMERGENCY SERVICES
in an emergency please call 000 or 112 from a mobile

THALLON POLICE STATION
Pine Street, Thallon 4497
(07) 4625 9120
Non-Urgent: 131 444 • **Crimestoppers:** 1800 333 000

MUNGINDI QLD POLICE STATION
49-67 Carnarvon Highway, Mungindi QLD 2406
(02) 6753 2006
Non-Urgent: 131 444 • **Crimestoppers:** 1800 333 000

MUNGINDI HOSPITAL
90 Barwon Street, Mungindi Qld 2406 • (07) 6705 6100

Bollon & Nindigully

MAKE BOLLON YOUR PLACE

The soil gets redder as you approach this great little western town. Bollon lies in the heart of sheep country, on the banks of the Wallam Creek - a great spot to fish or jump in for a dip on a hot summer's day. Bollon has a long and proud association with the sheep, and wool industry which are key to the local economy still today

- The centre of Bollon has a Post Office, mechanic, service station, and State School. Deb's Café serves yummy food and sells groceries, or you can enjoy a cold drink and pub meal at the Bollon Hotel.
- Like all towns in the Shire, Bollon is very much in touch with its heritage. At the Nullwaokka First Nations Gallery you can learn about it's ancient history, dream time stories and bush tucker of the Gwamu/Kooma people. Meanwhile, the Bollon Heritage Centre contains tales of the towns pastoral history and days gone by. The town's war heroes like Distinguished Flying Cross (DFC) recipient Flight Lieutenant George John (aka Jock) Steel are commemorated at the Bollon Returned Servicemen Memorial Wall in Walter Austin Memorial Park.

WELCOME TO NINDIGULLY

Just 45 km south-east of St George, 'The Gully' as it's locally known, is pretty much four houses and a pub on a riverbank. But what a pub, what a view and what characters you'll find! You'll have no trouble unwinding on the verandah of the pub as it hums with the chatter of travelers, and locals alike, enjoying happy hour and live acoustic music.

- Perched on the banks of the Moonie River, having been established in 1864, the rustic Nindigully Pub is the longest continually licensed pub in Queensland. Have you seen the film 'Paperback Hero'? It was filmed here, and the café's boomerangs remain, in pride of place

Key Events:

BOLLON CAMPDRAFT
BOLLON POLOCROSSE

Key Attractions:

ABORIGINAL DREAMTIME ARTWORK TRAIL
BOLLON HERITAGE CENTRE
NULAWOKKA FIRST NATIONS GALLERY & CULTURAL WALKS
WALTER AUSTIN MEMORIAL PARK
BOLLON POST OFFICE
DEB'S CAFE
BOLLON HOTEL
THRUSHTON NATIONAL PARK
NINDIGULLY PUB
THE GULLY WALK
PAPERBACK HERO BOOMERANGS
MOONIE RIVER

For more information please scan the QR code

SERVICES	OPENING HOURS
BOLLON POST OFFICE 8 George Street, Bollon 4488 07) 4625 6147 **fb.com/bollonpostoffice**	**Mon / Wed / Fri:** 9am–5pm
BOLLON LIBRARY Main Street, Next to civic centre, Bollon 4488 (07) 4625 6071	**Wed:** 1pm–4pm; **Fri:** 9am–11pm; 2pm–4pm
BOLLON HERITAGE CENTRE Main Street, Bollon 4488 • (07) 4625 6349 **fb.com/pages/Bollon-Heritage-Centre/1553157144981445**	

EDUCATION

BOLLON STATE SCHOOL
Main Street, Bollon 4488 • (07) 4625 6139
principal@bollonss.eq.edu.au • **bollonss.eq.edu.au**

BOLLON PLAYGROUP
The Rural Children's Centre, Main Street, Bollon 4488

MAIN COMMUNITY GROUPS

QCWA BOLLON
17 Main Street, Bollon 4488 • 0459 532 624 • qcwabollon@gmail.com

BOLLON AND DISTRICT COMMUNITY GROUP
PO Box 52, Bollon 4488 • (07) 4625 7318 • bolloncq@gmail.com

For information on all community groups in the Shire please visit
mycommunitydirectory.com.au/Queensland/Balonne

HEALTH AND EMERGENCY SERVICES
in an emergency please call 000 or 112 from a mobile

BOLLON COMMUNITY CLINIC
37 Main Street, Bollon 4488 • (07) 4625 6105

BOLLON POLICE STATION
Mary Street, Bollon 4488
(07) 4625 8200
Non-Urgent: 131 444 • **Crimestoppers:** 1800 333 000

History of the Balonne Shire

ST GEORGE

What's in a name? St George gets its name from when explorer Major Sir Thomas Mitchell crossed the Balonne River on Saint George's Day, 23 April 1846.

The Jack Taylor Weir and Andrew Nixon Bridge were constructed from 1948-52 and Beardmore Dam followed twenty years later from 1968-72. The dam's construction increased St George's Irrigation Area Supply tenfold in 1972, giving rise to the thriving cotton industry that continues to drive the town's economy today. The town's first cotton gin opened in 1976, 20km south of St George, and while that gin has been decommissioned, the Queensland Cotton Gin remains a major employer.

DIRRANBANDI

On the 4th of August 1885 the town site was proclaimed with the name Dirranbandi being believed to have come from an Aboriginal world meaning 'frogs croaking in a swamp at night'. On 22 November 2022, the Yuwaalaraay Euahlayi People's unbroken connection to the land around Dirranbandi was recognised when their Native Title Consent Determination was handed down during a High Court hearing.

In May 1913 the South Western railway was officially opened in Dirranbandi. It serviced the 413km mail run from Warwick and saw Australia's last mail train in 1993. The railway line has since been decommissioned but forms the centrepiece of the town's River and Rail Precinct.

In 2011, Dirranbandi became its own inland island, with the town becoming surrounded by flood waters during the Queensland Floods. This small town with a big heart, has made headlines in recent years thanks to the Paul Kelly and Friends Concert which began in 2018. It draws major recording artists, and fans from across the country to raise money that supports local students to pursue studies in agriculture.

HEBEL

Before being known as Hebel, the town was first know as Kelly's point and rumoured to be a secret hideout for Dan Kelly, and Steve Hart, members of the infamous Kelly Gang.

The town's name was changed to Hebel in the 1880's, although its origins remain a mystery, some suggest it was named after German settler Weiner Von Hebel or perhaps after an Aboriginal word meaning 'hot place'.

The Hebel Hotel opened in 1894 as a Cobb & Co changing station before later operating as a hotel. The hotel's original name was the Commercial Hotel. It has been revived in recent years by an enterprising local family, who have breathed new life into this classic Australian pub.

THALLON

The town's name comes from its railway station named after the Commissioner for Railways – JF Thallon, who developed most of Queensland's rail system when the railway line was extended west from Talwood.

Thallon was gazetted in 1911 as a town reserve and with the coming of the railway, shops, and a hotel were soon established. Thallon's first permanent grain storage facility was built in 1969. In 1977 two giant concrete silos were constructed, followed by another two in 1982 that now form the canvas for the town's outstanding murals.

MUNGINDI

The past is not far away in Mungindi where you can reach back through the years and touch the One Ton Post – one of the two original survey pegs dating back over 100 years. Found on the west bank of the Barwon River, the One Ton Post stands out as a remarkable monument erected by surveyor JB Cameron, to mark the end of the three-year task surveying the straight section of the Queensland/New South Wales border, from Cameron Corner to the Barwon River.

BOLLON

It is believed the town's name originated from the Indigenous word 'Bolion' meaning 'stone tomahawk or axe' and was later adapted to the word Bollon.

Bollon's seen its fair share of major flooding events. Ask a local about the time in 2010 when the entire town was inundated except for the pub which remained the driest point in the main street! Fortunately, the town has been free from flooding since 2012 and additionally the town is now protected by a levee bank, constructed in 2015.

NINDIGULLY

The name Nindigully is said to be a combination of an Indigenous word 'nindi' meaning small, and the English word 'gully'. In the town's heyday, its main and adjoining streets boasted a hall, school, post office, telephone exchange, mechanics, store, and the pub which served as a Cobb & Co changeover station between the late 19th century and early 20th century.

In the Nindigully Pub's 150+ year history, it has seen almost as many name changes as it has poured beers. Its first name was the Nidigually Hotel, now spelt Nindigully, but it's also been known as The Grand Hotel, Travellers Rest Hotel, Sportsmans Arms Hotel and Sternes Hotel.

For More Information

To learn more about the Balonne Shire, and each of our friendly towns please visit:

BALONNE SHIRE COUNCIL
@BalonneSC
@balonnesc
balonne.qld.gov.au

ST GEORGE REGION
@stgeorgeregion
@stgeorgeregion
stgeorgeregion.com.au

ST GEORGE QLD – CONNECT SOUTH WEST QLD
@SaintGeorgeQLD
stgeorgeqld.com.au

Balonne Shire Council • PO Box 201 • 118 Victoria Street, St George QLD 4487
P 07 4620 8888 • **F** 07 4620 8889 • council@balonne.qld.gov.au • balonne.qld.gov.au

Current as of February 2022

MAKE OUR PLACE
Your Place
BALONNE SHIRE
QUEENSLAND