



MEDIA RELEASE

Deck the Halls

As we move toward the end of the year it is often the time for celebration or at least a get together with family and friends. During the year Buloke Shire Council completed its Upgrading Halls Project which saw facility upgrades at ten community halls.

Halls in Birchip, Charlton, Culgoa, Donald, Litchfield, Nandaly, Nullawil, Sea Lake, Watchem and Wycheproof shared in the \$440,000 project funded through Regional Development Victoria's Putting Locals First Program and the Buloke Shire Council.

The project enabled a number of ageing community meeting spaces to be upgraded to improve amenity and enhance opportunities within the spaces. Upgrades at the ten facilities included new kitchens, upgrading of electricity, upgrades to toilet facilities, heating and cooling improvements and plumbing enhancements. Painting also raised the aesthetic appeal of the halls.

The project was delivered by Council to address local priorities. Through the consultation phase, the community groups provided their advice to Council on the needs within their halls. This approach brought the community together and ensured the process was a partnership between community and Council. Upgraded facilities have seen user groups participate more regularly with interest from these groups to further enhance facilities by taking more community ownership in partnership with Council.

Local small businesses and contractors were utilised in the majority of the construction work. This ensured genuine delivery of the community's needs and provided investment to improve small business capacity locally.

"This project has seen tremendous enhancements across ten of Buloke's community halls. It was a significant project with a large scope delivered by a small rural council. These are great facilities which are now more comfortable and inviting. Our user groups are certainly enjoying the spaces and they give residents a great option for gatherings over the holiday period", said Mayor, Cr Reid Mather.



To book a Buloke Shire Council Hall call customer service on 1300 520 520.

End release

For further information contact Travis Fitzgibbon on 1300 520 520