

Media Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Leaking showground to ease.

Exorbitant water usage charges will soon be a thing of the past for the Gundagai Racecourse and Showground Trust, as work begins on the replacement of 1380 metres of underground water pipes and 16 taps. The project has been funded with a successful grant from the Stronger Communities Fund.

The Trust has been battling with water leakage from the galvanized pipes laid 42 years ago under the then Whitlam Governments RED (Regional Employment Development) scheme.

Members of the Trust have been vigilant to ease the problem, by turning off water access to different sections of the showground and racecourse area and constantly monitoring the water meter to identify new leaks. This added work will soon be put to rest, as the equipment needed has arrived and work begins this week.

Mr Len Tozer, the secretary of the trust said operating costs will be reduced and this will benefit all users.

“We have to constantly monitor the water usage, as many of the leaks can be undetectable, whilst major leaks are repaired, we can’t always find small leaks. The current pipes are rusted and corroded. We will be passing the savings on to users, and keep events affordable for all,” Mr Tozer said.

Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council administrator Mr Stephen Sykes said the project addresses a serious problem of water usage and waste, which has flow on effects for all who utilise the racecourse and showground area.

“We are pleased this project has been able to get underway, the Stronger Communities Fund grant will enable the group to reduce their costs, save precious water and will encourage further use of the site,” Mr Sykes said.

The showground and racecourse area is home for a number of Gundagai organisations which include the Gundagai P&A Society, Gundagai Rodeo Club, Gundagai Pony Club,

Gundagai-Adelong Racing Club, and Gundagai Poultry Club.

The area is well utilised and supported with events such as Battle on the Bidgee, Gundagai Mud Muster, ARTHC Tractor Pull and Reunion, Mini Trots, Camp Draft, local and district school cross Country events, weddings, birthdays, Christmas parties, reunions and the very popular Snake Gully Cup which sees visitors flocking to area annually.

The successful Stronger Communities Fund grant for the project was \$17511.00. The Stronger Communities Fund is a NSW state government initiative and administered by Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council.

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