LOCAL MATTERS

LISMORE CITY COUNCIL NEWS ISSUE 93, 2 AUGUST 2017









RURAL Landholder Initiative

HEALTHY LAND AND WATERWAYS

2018 RURAL LANDHOLDER INITIATIVE EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST NOW OPEN

We are calling for expressions of interest from rural landholders to undertake on-ground works on their property to protect and enhance biodiversity and/or koala habitat.

Assistance of up to \$5000 is available for primary works and initial maintenance in the first year, with complex restoration projects eligible for second year funds of up to \$2500. Sites along floodplain riverbanks can apply for up to \$10,000 if works include fencing and off-stream watering.

Due to the recent flood, restoration works that aim to address flood damage to creeks and riverbanks, hillslopes and bushland are eligible for funding. These projects must also address the long-term biodiversity benefits that can be achieved alongside flood damage repair and mitigation.

Council has produced a series of booklets on the major environmental issues for five land use types in our region: beef graziers, dairy farmers, orchardists, floodplain croppers and rural 'lifestyle' landholders. The booklets offer ideas for improving land management practices for biodiversity and includes a Farm Health Assessment Tool so that landholders can self-assess their current practices and identify possible actions for project proposals.

We recommend you consult the booklets to gain ideas about how to improve your land and your expression of interest. Consulting with Landcare and bush regeneration professionals is also highly recommended if you are unsure about how to identify priority projects and conservation values on your property.

Expressions of interest are open until 25 January 2018 so there is plenty of time to do some reading and research before making an application.

All the information your need is available on our website at www.lismore.nsw.gov.au. Go to the green 'Environment & Sustainability' tab and click on Rural Landholder Initiative.

LISMORE QUAD NOW OPEN TO ALL

The new Lismore Quadrangle in the centre of the city is now open to the community.

This new town square – dubbed the Quad – is a grassed public space in the heart of Lismore that was built as part of the \$5.8 million redevelopment of Lismore Regional Gallery.

MEANWHILE...

Over in front of the new gallery, we are trying to save a large eucalypt tree that appears to be dying.

This is a real shame, as the tree is a beautiful specimen, and enhances the space as well as providing much-needed shade. The plans for the new gallery were amended to ensure this tree remained a feature of the new gallery and Quad space.

While the building of the gallery is now complete, there is still lots more work to be done internally before the new facility can open to the public in October. But the fences around the Quad have come down, and this space can now be used.

Emulating many of Australia's cities, the Quad provides a green space in the heart of our city where people can have lunch, read a book or just relax on the grass. In partnership with Southern Cross University, we will soon employ a Quadrangle Placemaking Officer to plan and host events, performances and placemaking activities within the Quad.

Bordered by the gallery, the Lismore Library and the Northern Rivers Conservatorium just off Keen Street, the Quad is a central public gathering space where people can play, create, learn, be inspired or simply just be in the centre of the city.

We are very excited to see this finally come to fruition and hope it will be well used, loved and respected by the local community.

We are now working with arborists and doing everything we can to salvage the tree.

"The tree was infested with white ants, and we are trying to determine if the treatment for that is having any role in the die back," Council's Manager of Major Recreation and Cultural Facilities Tony Duffy said.

"We have discovered that a number of other Gympie messmates in Lismore have recently died, or are in the process of dying, so our arborists are investigating if there is any crossover between these occurrences.

"It could be any number of things, but we will do everything we can to save the tree.'

The tree was treated for white ants in March and appeared fine. It began to look sick following the flood, and has worsened significantly in the last few weeks.

NEW MOUNTAIN BIKE TRAILS OPEN FOR LISMORE

Richmond River Riders Incorporated is a mountain bike club that encourages all forms of cycling in a family friendly atmosphere.

Over the past few years, the club has worked in conjunction with Council to get mountain bike trails built in Lismore for the community to enjoy.

The first official mountain bike trails for the city are the Captain Rous Park Mountain Bike Trails, which are opening on Sunday, 20 August.

The new mountain bike trails are located at Hamley Road, Goonellabah, and the opening is from 11am till 2pm. There will be a sausage sizzle and drinks for sale, with all proceeds going towards maintenance and

development of the trails. Bring along your family and your bikes – and don't forget your helmet.

Everyone (is welcome.

For more information. contact Richmond River Riders **Incorporated Club President** Chris Irish on 0408 722 548, email richmondriverriders@gmail.com or find them on Facebook: @RichmondRiverRiders.

MEMORIAL BATHS REMAIN CLOSED FOR FLOOD REPAIRS

We would like to inform swimmers that the Lismore Memorial Baths may not open until the summer holidays as major flood repairs continue.

The Memorial Baths facility was severely damaged in the March flood, and Council is currently in the midst of a lengthy process to obtain flood insurance funding and issue tenders for repairs to the pool filtration system.

It is estimated that repairs could cost close to \$1 million and this figure could go higher if flood mitigation measures are put in place.

Council's Manager of Major Recreation and Cultural Facilities Tony Duffy said Council had planned to open the pool in August this year, extending the normal swimming season, but unfortunately the flood had spoiled those plans.

"The flood damage at the Baths was significant, with the entire pool filtration system destroyed as well as lots of other minor damage to infrastructure," Tony explained.

"We have been working to fix the seating, café and other minor works, but we are still working on a tender for the filtration system. We are also investigating options for flood mitigation to prevent such a significant loss in future floods.

"We apologise to our local swimming community and families, but this process is something we cannot speed up. While the flood has certainly changed our plans this year, we will definitely be aiming for an extended swimming season next year."

People are encouraged to use the Goonellabah Sports & Aquatic Centre facility until the Memorial Baths can reopen. Council will advise once a Memorial Baths opening date is set.

PLEASE DON'T PUT WIPES IN THE PIPES!

Have you heard there is an increasing issue with wet wipes in pipes and wastewater systems?

Well, unfortunately there is, and it's blocking our sewer lines and causing our staff a big headache. And not just a headache... spare a thought for the poor people who have to clean out the sewers!

The problem is with all types of wipes – baby wipes, facial wipes, cleaning wipes and personal wipes.

The rule is simply: Always put these items in your waste bin and NEVER flush them down the toilet.

The confusion comes because lots of brands advertise their products as 'flushable' wipes. This is simply not correct and they don't breakdown like toilet paper. Human waste and toilet paper is the only material that can breakdown quickly enough for our wastewater system.

The result is that flushed wipes can block pipes, clog pumps and hinder treatment. This can lead to sewage overflows into homes or creeks. It can turn into costly plumbing bills and is costly on the environment too.

Water utilities from around the world (Australia, the United States, the UK, New Zealand and across Europe) have joined together to provide an industry position on non-flushable and flushable labelled products. They agree that only the three Ps (pee, poo and toilet paper) should be flushed down the toilet. They are also calling for products labelled 'flushable' to be labelled 'Do Not Flush' until there is a standard agreed by the water and wastewater industry.

In December 2016, the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission commenced investigation into a wipes manufacturer for making false or misleading claims by saying their products were flushable.

"Wipes are a worldwide problem and a local issue too for Lismore City Council," Waste and Wastewater Engineer Rod Haig said.

"They cause pipe blockages, pump failures and snag screens at our wastewater treatment plants. This leads to a significant increase in maintenance and operational costs."

Thank you for helping to keep our sewer system healthy by putting your wipes in the waste bin.



DEVELOPMENT CONSENTS ISSUED

ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING AND ASSESSMENT ACT

In accordance with the provisions of Section 101 of the Act and Clause 124 of the EP&A Regulation, notification is given that the undermentioned developments have recently been granted consent.

DA No.

04/1112-2 55 Cathcart Street and 45 Parkes Street, Girards Hill: Section 96(1A) modification to relocate stairs and landing on proposed deck, remove picket fence on western end of property and delete proposed tank in a heritage conservation area.

15/136-2 59 Magellan Street, Lismore: Section 96(1A) modification to allow a maximum of 50 private family funeral services to be undertaken per annum and a maximum capacity of 50 people per private family funeral service.

16/11-2 225, 227, 229 and 231 Keen Street, Lismore: Modification of consent application to include works in relation to flood damage.

16/153-2 54 Bridge Street, Wyrallah: Section 96(1) modification to add a new condition in relation to the remediated site.

16/337-2 46 Nielson Street, East Lismore: Section 96(1) modification to amend item eight to correct wording.

17/97 766 and 766A Ballina Road, Goonellabah: Subdivision of two lots into eight lots, removal of three trees and associated infrastructure.

17/107 67 Krauss Avenue, Loftville: To undertake the subdivision of one lot into three lots with associated infrastructure services; and temporary use, for two years, of proposed Lot 1 for parking of vehicles associated with Lismore Toyota on adjoining Lot 83 (DP1218917).

17/124 346 Keen Street and 53 Barham Street, East Lismore: Subdivision (boundary alteration).

17/134 6/60 Barham Street, East Lismore: Dwelling.

17/142 157 Cameron Road, Boat Harbour: Shed.

17/149 2 Earls Court, Goonellabah: Dwelling.

17/156 17 John O'Neill Circuit, Goonellabah: Dwelling.

17/159 75 Cameron Road, Boat Harbour: Dwelling with a 10.2m setback from Cameron Road.

17/168 2/31 Dawson Street, Lismore: To use Unit 2 of the existing development as a recreation facility (indoor), being an indoor gym, comprising one-on-one personal training; and group classes of up to eight persons, between 5pm and 7pm Mondays to Friday.

17/170 129 Military Road, East Lismore: Demolish existing fence and replace with paling fence 1.8m high.

17/176 137 Connor Road, Tregeagle: Additions and alterations including modifications to the kitchen, main bedroom, study and ensuite plus the addition of a covered outdoor living area.

17/177 39 Cullen Street, Nimbin: Tree removal/lopping in a heritage conservation area.

17/179 32 Elliott Road, South Lismore: Elevate existing dwelling above 1:100 flood level, extend carport awning, fit out a new bathroom in the sleepout, replace stairs at front, add a new covered deck and laundry at rear and remove a tree.

17/180 11 Panorama Road, Girards Hill: Removal of two trees in a heritage conservation area.

17/186 16 Kurrajong Place, Caniaba: Inground swimming pool.

17/189 22 Waratah Way, Goonellabah: Internal alterations to create two rooms for use as an office and for storage.

17/192 17 May Street, Dunoon: Dwelling and shed.

17/193 22 Engine Street, South Lismore: Raise existing house to 13.2m AHD, new rear entry landing and front and rear stairs.

Details of applications and consents, together with conditions attached, may be inspected at Council's Corporate Centre during business hours or via DA Tracking at www.lismore.nsw.gov.au.

SOUTH LISMORE GETS NEW ROUNDABOUT

We would like to say a big thank you to the businesses of South Lismore for their patience while we constructed the new roundabout on the corner of Union and Casino Streets.

We are aware that the disruption, particularly so soon after the flood, was not welcomed by some, and we are very grateful for everyone's cooperation during the build.

The roundabout is now complete, and we are finishing off pedestrian facilities, line marking and landscaping as you read this.

The new roundabout was funded under the Federal Government's Black Spot program and is designed to provide for easy traffic movement as traffic volumes increase over the next 20 years.

The intersection was identified as a potential congestion point in a traffic study done for the South Lismore Industrial Estate, and the roundabout means traffic can now move more freely out of Casino Street while through traffic along Union Street has to slow down approaching the new roundabout.



Pedestrian accidents were recorded at this site and the roundabout has been designed to improve pedestrian safety through relocation of pedestrian crossings as well as new median strip fencing outside the Union Street shops to encourage people to use the safer pedestrian refuge points.

Council really appreciates the input local businesses had at our three site meetings, which led us to change the roundabout design and on-street parking to better meet local needs.

Once the roadworks are complete and all on-street parking has been reopened, we will close the carpark in the disused railway land opposite the Union Street shops. While this was always a temporary arrangement, we hope to make it permanent subject to addressing some land use and funding issues in consultation with the landowner, NSW Transport. We will keep everyone updated once we know more.

Once again, thank you to local businesses, residents and people who drive through South Lismore for your support, understanding and patience during this construction.

WEEKEND ROADWORKS – TEMPORARY **ROAD CLOSURE**

Hunter Street at Lismore Base Hospital

We have some weekend roadworks coming up for Hunter Street between Uralba Street and Laurel Avenue during August.

Subject to fine weather, the section of Hunter Street adjoining part of Lismore Base Hospital will be temporarily closed over two successive weekends:

Saturday and Sunday, 5-6 August

Saturday and Sunday, 12-13 August

Temporary detours will be in place between 7am and 4pm during the weekend roadworks.

Traffic control will be in place for those people that need to access Shepherd Lane.

We appreciate your patience while detouring around these roadworks.

SUSTAINABLE HOUSE DAY DESIGN COMP OPEN UNTIL 1 SEPT

The 2017 Sustainable House Day Design Competition is open until 1 September, with architects, designers and people with clever ideas urged to enter.

The theme for this year's Sustainable House Day Design Competition is 'Build it Local' and entrants are challenged to build an urban structure using materials from our backyard in the Northern Rivers.

Designs could be made using recycled materials, or incorporate local materials like bamboo, basalt, clay and camphor to name a few.

Entries for the 2017 Sustainable House Day Design Competition are open until 1 September. The 2017 Sustainable House Day Expo will be held on Saturday, 16 September at Tweed Seagulls Club, where all entries from the design competition will be displayed.

For more info and entry forms, visit www.sustainablehousedaynr.org.

The 2017 Northern Rivers Sustainable House Day Design Competition is a joint project by Lismore City Council, Byron Shire Council, Ballina Shire Council, Tweed Shire Council, Nimbin Neighbourhood & Information Centre, TAFE NSW, Self Seed Sustainability and Dorroughby Environment Educational Centre.



Last year's People Choice Award winner, SkyFarm, a rural studio made of hemp, recycled timber and other non-toxic materials by Michael Leung. This is a good example of a house built using local and recycled materials.

FIRST RATES **INSTALMENT FOR 2017/18 DUE IN AUGUST**

All Lismore ratepayers should be aware that the first rates instalment for the 2017/18 rateable year is due for payment on Thursday, 31 August 2017. If you have any questions regarding your annual rates notice, please phone us on 1300 87 83 87.

YOUR COVER

We have opened our next expression of interest for the Rural Landholder Initiative, which is open until 25 January 2018. Funding is available to help local landholders and farmers protect biodiversity on private property. We are looking to help landholders with on-ground works from off-stream watering and stock fencing to tree planting and weed removal. We are keen to fund works that help protect biodiversity values including water quality and retaining and improving important habitat and koala corridors for our native wildlife. We have comprehensive guidelines online with all the relevant information. Visit www.lismore.nsw.gov.au.





CONTACT US: 1300 87 83 87

Lismore City Council's Corporate Centre is located at 43 Oliver Avenue, Goonellabah.

We are open Monday to Friday from 8.30am to 4.30pm.

Our postal address is PO Box 23A, Lismore NSW 2480.

You can email us at council@lismore.nsw.gov.au





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