LOCAL MATTERS

LISMORE CITY COUNCIL NEWS ISSUE 276, 3 MARCH 2025









SENIORS WEEK FESTIVAL

To celebrate the role and contributions of older adults in our community aged 55 years and over, Lismore City Council is hosting the Lismore 2025 Seniors Festival from Monday, 3 March to Saturday, 15 March.

This year's theme, 'Time to Shine, captures the festival's goal of motivating seniors to discover new possibilities and immerse themselves in their community.

Lismore City Mayor Steve Krieg said the Lismore Seniors Festival offers several events that connect seniors with their community.

"The festival celebrates aging through activities and practical tips to enhance well-being. Most importantly, it's a chance to 'Shine' and get together with friends or go out and meet new people while exploring the range of free events and activities," he said.

"I highly recommend viewing the festival program which includes creative workshops, croquet, lawn bowls, softball, fitness classes, a trivia night and nature walk. Council has aimed to provide something for everyone aged 55 years and over."

Council's Sport and Recreation Lead, Kristy Lenon said, "The value of hosting such an event for the Lismore community is that it promotes social ties, education and physical activity which all play a vital role in enhancing the mental health and overall well-being of older residents in our community."

"Not only are the events and activities all free, but the festival also offers a broad and welcoming lineup designed to motivate our seniors to extend their boundaries by trying something different and meeting new people."

The NSW State Government Department of Communities and Justice fund Seniors Festival Events through a competitive grants program. The NSW Seniors Festival includes hundreds of events across NSW hosted by councils and community organisations.

For more information, including viewing the complete program of events and activities, go to www.lismore.nsw.gov.au or scan the QR code.

For full list of activities and events. please scan the QR Code.

Lismore's **2025** Seniors Festival 3-15 March

Time to Shine



Proudly funded by:





ARTEXPRESS

Lismore Regional Gallery proudly presents ARTEXPRESS, a showcase of extraordinary student talent.

ARTEXPRESS is an annual series of exhibitions of exemplary artworks created by New South Wales visual arts students for the Higher School Certificate examination.

Exhibitions are selected by gallery curators, education officers in association with an ARTEXPRESS Officer, featuring a selection of outstanding student artworks developed for the art-making component of the HSC examination in Visual Arts in 2024. ARTEXPRESS provides insight into students' creativity and the issues important to them.

Lismore Regional Gallery Director Ashleigh Ralph said: "After an extensive selection process, our Curator, Ineke Dane, has curated an inspiring and diverse collection of student works. We are thrilled to invite visitors to experience the remarkable depth and vision of these emerging artists. The future of the creative industries is undeniably bright."

The exhibition is on display at Lismore Regional Gallery until **20** April **2025**. It encompasses a broad range of approaches and expressive forms, including ceramics, collection of works, designed objects, documented forms, drawing, graphic design, painting, photomedia, printmaking, sculpture, textiles and fibre and time-based forms.

From the late 1950s, ARTEXPRESS has showcased the artistic orientation of young people and is a testament to their teachers across the state.

This year Lismore Regional Gallery is pleased to present local student artists from the region – from Ballina coast, Banora Point, Byron Bay, and Cape Byron Rudolf Steiner schools – in addition to those from far and wide NSW. The result is an inspiring and diverse survey of the next generation's creative talent.

ARTEXPRESS is a collaboration between the NSW Department of **Education and the NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA).**



Leon Ding, 'Latent reverie: disquised desires' (detail) 2024, watercolour and poster ink on paper.

Image courtesy of the artist.

CURATING CRICKET: THE CRAFT BEHIND THE GAME

At Lismore City Council, maintaining quality sports facilities is a yearround commitment, and cricket is no exception. A well-prepared pitch ensures a fair contest where both batters and bowlers can showcase their skills.

Lismore is home to five turf wickets, which form the backbone of the region's local grade cricket competitions. Each season, Council's pitch curator, Paul Altman, ensures these wickets are in top condition for the hundreds of local players who take to the field.





This season brought extra pressure, with Oakes Oval hosting the Legends of Cricket match, welcoming world-class cricketers who praised the quality of the pitch. From grassroots to the elite level, these wickets are vital in keeping cricket strong in Lismore.

"Cricket is all about balance between bat and ball," Paul says.

"Too soft, and the bowlers dominate; too hard, and the batters have it too easy. Moisture management is key—you don't want cracks or a surface that falls apart."

Preparing a pitch for our local cricketers or world-class superstars is more than rolling grass. The process begins with repairing damage from winter sports—levelling, applying clay and reviving the grass.

A well-prepared pitch allows batters to develop their craft and bowlers to refine their line and length.

When cricket season ends, Paul shifts to parks and gardens work, assisting with maintenance across Lismore. But he's back as soon as the season returns, ensuring the wickets are in top condition. Keeping a close eye on performance, he checks match scores and watches games to assess playability, taking pride in delivering quality surfaces for local competitions. For enthusiastic backyard cricketers, Paul recommends a push-roller with weight, clay-based soil, and gradual mowing for the best surface. Having worked on world-class wickets, including Lords, the SCG, and the WACA, he knows what makes a great playing field.

ADAM GILCHRIST PAVILION UNVEILED

Lismore's reputation as a premier regional sporting hub has been further strengthened with the unveiling of the Adam Gilchrist Pavilion at the Lismore Regional Sporting Hub.

Named in honour of one of Australia's greatest cricketers, the pavilion is a key feature of the \$12.4 million stadium upgrade for Oakes Oval and Crozier Field.

Adam (Gilly) Gilchrist, a household name in Australian cricket, has deep ties to Lismore, having spent his formative years in the region and attended school in Goonellabah.

A dynamic wicketkeeper-batsman, Gilly played a pivotal role in Australia's cricketing dominance, featuring in three consecutive World Cup-winning teams (1999, 2003, 2007).

Known for his aggressive batting style in all formats of cricket, his quick hands, sharp reflexes and fearless work with the gloves, Gilly set a new benchmark for modern wicketkeepers.

He was named Wisden Cricketer of the Year in 2002 and was later inducted into the International Cricketing Council's Hall of Fame. His legacy extends beyond the field, making him a fitting namesake for this state-of-the-art sporting facility.

Lismore City Mayor Steve Krieg said it is an honour to recognise Gilly's amazing career and work. "Gilly brought lots of joy and amazement on our TV screens with his astonishing cricketing skills," he said.

"It is an absolute honour to have this quality facility named after one of Lismore's most iconic sporting names."

The Adam Gilchrist Pavilion is a multi-purpose venue designed to accommodate a variety of sporting and community events. Featuring a function room, commercial kitchen, office space, amenities and a viewing deck overlooking both Oakes Oval and Crozier Field, the pavilion provides a premium space for teams, officials and spectators alike.

With an internal seating capacity of 100 people, the pavilion offers a flexible space that can be divided into three separate areas for meetings and private functions.

The venue includes modern amenities such as air conditioning, Wi-Fi, accessible toilets, a lift and a fully equipped kitchen and bar.



Gilly said having a pavilion named after him is an honour he will never forget.

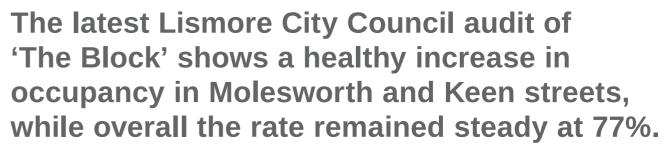
"It's an incredible honour to have a pavilion named after you," he said.

"Lismore played such a huge role in my journey and will forever be part of my DNA."

For more information or to make a booking, visit the Lismore City Council website at www.lismore.nsw.gov.au and look under venues.

CBD OCCUPANCY RATES STABILISE

In the face of high interest rates and the cost-of-living crisis, Lismore CBD occupancy rates have remained steady over the three months to December compared with the previous three months.



Mayor Steve Krieg thanked local businesses for their commitment to Lismore and providing local jobs.

"While more work needs to be done to encourage businesses into the CBD, the fact that the rate has remained steady shows our local businesses are committed to Lismore and its recovery," he said.

"And despite the cost-of-living crisis, local spend across the LGA in December 2024 totalled \$111 million, an increase of 4.2 percent from December 2023."

The Lismore CBD Audit covers central portions of Keen, Molesworth, Woodlark, Conway, Magellan and Carrington Streets. Below are the street-by-street occupation rates at December 2024, compared with June 2024:

- Keen Street occupancy rate 85% (up from 81.1%)
- Molesworth Street occupancy rate 86% (up from 74%)
- Conway Street occupancy rate 67% (down from 72.1%)
- Carrington Street occupancy rate 78% (up from 73.1%)
- Magellan Street occupancy rate 75% (down from 76.3%)
- Woodlark Street occupancy rate 60% (down from 60.7%)

This is the fifth Lismore CBD Audit following the 2022 natural disaster, with previous audits undertaken in June and January 2023 and August 2022, and February 2022 (immediately prior to the February disaster). The same area of the Lismore CBD has been audited by Council staff each year since 2017.

VOLUNTEER INFORMATION MORNING

Come along from 9.15am to 1pm on Sunday, 23 March to spend the morning with some of the Friends of the Lismore Rainforest Botanic Gardens volunteers, to look around the Gardens and find out what you can do to help the Friends manage and maintain this beautiful part of Lismore.

Meet at the Visitors Centre at the Gardens next to the **Recycling & Recovery Centre** (313 Wyrallah Rd, East Lismore). Morning tea provided.

Some of the jobs which need to be done are welcoming visitors at the Visitors Centre, publishing and website maintenance, archival organisation in the office, weeding, guiding (training available), nursery propagation, construction of seats, bridges, shed, maintenance of signs and equipment, newsletter editing,



planning for Open Days and special events, botanical identification, data base maintenance, fertilising, path repairs and more.

The Friends volunteers are a happy and productive team. They would love to see you on Wednesdays from 8am to 11am or behind the scenes if you prefer.

No experience is necessary. You will learn on the job. The garden only has native plants endemic to within 200km of Lismore, so you will be able to learn about the beautiful rainforest plants.

One-year's membership of \$10 covers insurance with Lismore City Council. Wear long pants and sleeves and a hat.

To register your interest, email publicity@friendslrbg.com.au



DIVE INTO AN ACTION-PACKED DAY OF SWIMMING, FLOATING, RUNNING, AND JUMPING, AT THIS EXCITING EVENT!

Take on a thrilling obstacle course, conquer giant water inflatables, grab some tasty food at the food trucks and celebrate your efforts with a lively pool party. It's the ultimate test of strength, skill, and endurance—all while having a blast! Whether you're 8 or 108, the Splash and Dash is your chance to create unforgettable memories, kick off the holidays with a splash, and enjoy quality time with family and friends.

WHEN: Sunday 13th April from 9am WHERE: Lismore Memorial Baths – 179 Molesworth Street, Lismore POOL PARTY: 3-6pm (everyone welcome, pool entry fee required)

SPOTS ARE LIMITED, SO DON'T MISS OUT! TAKE ADVANTAGE OF EARLY BIRD PRICES BY SIGNING UP TODAY. VISITLISMORE.COM.AU FOR TICKETS AND MORE INFORMATION

DEVELOPMENT CONSENTS ISSUE

ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING AND ASSESSMENT

In accordance with the provisions of Section 4.59 of the Act and Clause 124 of the EP&A Regulation, notification is given that the undermentioned developments have recently been granted consent.

APPLICATION DETAILS

DA24/247-2 1 Georgi Place, Nimbin: Section 4.55(1) modification to amend condition no. 1.

DA24/255 4 Wallaby Road, Stony Chute: To use two (2) existing buildings as an expanded dwelling.

DA24/310 357 Dunoon Road, Tullera: Recreation facility (outdoor) – Use of existing farm infrastructure for a horse-riding school and equestrian training facility.

DA25/014 4 Jennifer Place, Goonellabah: Construction of a shed and detached carport.

DA25/18 13 Sawyers Avenue, Goonellabah: Retaining walls and front entry steps.

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.



LISMORE FOOTPATH ACTIVATION TRIAL

To help support local shopping and vibrancy around all of Lismore's business centres Lismore City Council is trialling the Lismore Footpath Activation project from now until 29 June 2025.

The project aims to demonstrate benefits for individual business, the local economy and business centre amenity, with a consistent approach that does not impede accessibility throughout our business centres.



Scan the QR Code to find more information on the trial and associated guidelines for participation



CONTACT US: 6625 0500

Corporate Centre: 43 Oliver Avenue, Goonellabah Hours: Monday to Friday, 8.30am to 4.30pm Post: PO Box 23A, Lismore, NSW 2480 Email: council@lismore.nsw.gov.au Web: www.lismore.nsw.gov.au



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