

community connect

the newsletter of ballina shire council

Australia Day special guest – *Max Walker*



Former test cricketer Max Walker will be our guest speaker at the official Ballina Shire Australia Day ceremony on 26 January 2016.

Max Walker not only played test cricket for Australia but he is well-travelled, a wonderful story teller and a successful businessman. One of Australia's favourite sons of sport, he is an Australian speaking and MC phenomenon. Max Walker has spoken or hosted more than 4,000 events throughout Australia and the world, and presented approximately 3,000 hours of television.

Max played test cricket in a golden era under the captaincy of Ian and Greg Chappell. He proudly pulled on the baggy green cap to tour New Zealand, England and The West Indies, playing 34 test matches. Max took 138 wickets at an average of 27.47 and supported his team with 12 catches. He contributed 586 runs (avg. 19.53).

A practising architect for 10 years, Max is also a successful entrepreneur; a hands-on director of four companies, and the author of 14 books, his latest being the compilation of cricketing yarns, Caps, Hats and Helmets. Max Walker has also been the face and voice of numerous multi-million dollar advertising campaigns.

The event will start at 9am at the Lennox Head Cultural and Community Centre, with a full program including welcome to country, a special address by Max Walker, a music performance by Katie Rutledge and Band, citizenship and award ceremonies.

Ballina Shire Council will also provide free return bus, picking up from Alstonville, West Ballina, Ballina Island and East Ballina. There are 55 seats available on the wheel chair accessible bus. Bookings are essential by contacting the Ballina Visitor Information Centre on free call 1800 777 666. Refer to page 5 for bus timetable.

To find out more about what's happening this Australia Day, visit ballina.nsw.gov.au

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year

There's loads of Christmas spirit in Ballina's town centre this year. Trees on our roundabouts are adorned with baubles and the Wigmore Arcade is decked out in Christmas garland.

There are also new flags in River Street too!

Ballina Shire Councillors and staff wish our residents and visitors a safe and happy Christmas and a very prosperous 2016.

inside

Tenders for new Marine Rescue tower



Council trainees win Novaskill Awards



Ballina base motorcycle touring guide



Shop local and support where you live





our *vision*

serving the **community** of today while preparing for the challenges of tomorrow

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from the mayor's desk

2015 is nearly over and it seems to have passed by me in a blur.

This year has seen many Council plans reaching fulfilment while there has been a downside with the shark problem.

Highlights have included the matching funding of the Marine Rescue Tower by the NSW State Government after many years of lobbying (has now gone to tender), the refurbishment of Wigmore Arcade and car park into a vibrant selection of shopping experiences, a commencement of improvements around Lake Ainsworth while Council has continued with the beautification of River Street.

There has been an increased level of housing and commercial building during 2015. The housing growth along Plateau Drive in Wollongbar has been phenomenal with over twenty homes at a time under construction and what were paddocks two years ago now feature over one hundred family units. Ballina Heights and surrounds are also experiencing commercial and residential constructions and plans for the future will see the area turn into a major hub of the Shire.

Council has built the new Wastewater Treatment Plant at West Ballina and has been replacing old water mains with improved technology. Our Airport continues to be a major success story for tourism and local families while the plans for the new Ballina High Super School are exciting and should offer community sporting and cultural facilities right in the middle of town.

I'm really proud that the State Government has found Ballina Shire Council to be 'Fit for the Future'. This is a reflection of the great job being undertaken by the staff and the succession of hard working Councillors who have dedicated an immense amount of their time in providing improved community benefits and great programs for renewing our existing assets and creating new ones.

Our local beaches have been featured across the country and around the world and I thank the Department of Primary Industries (DPI) and the NSW Government for the research into the aggregation of sea life along our beaches and the implementation of protection and safety measures.

The offshoot of the shark attacks has led to increased workloads for our surf lifesaving volunteers, the local police, Council Staff, SES, lifeguards, ambulance staff and Westpac helicopter. The physical and mental scars have been immense but the ongoing support for the victims and the rescuers from our local community has been amazing.

I particularly wish to thank Air T&G for their continuing surveillance work. Their efforts have really saved lives of surfers and have made the community feel much safer.

On behalf of Council I hope that businesses and families have a great Christmas break and that safety in the water and on the roads is paramount.

I look forward to 2016 and I am excited that veteran Australian swing bowler, Max Walker, is our Australia Day guest at our celebrations in January.

Please enjoy family time over the holiday period and take time to appreciate all the hard working volunteers who give up their time to make Ballina Shire such a great place to live.

Cr David Wright

our values

creative

accessible

respectful

energetic

safe



FIRST SHARK TECHNOLOGY TRIAL UNDERWAY

Drones will be trialled and aerial surveillance boosted on the North Coast as the NSW Government fast tracks the rollout of its world-first \$16 million shark strategy.

Minister for Primary Industries Niall Blair announced that this will also include the trial of smart drum lines to better protect surfers and swimmers this summer.

Ballina Shire will be a major beneficiary of the NSW Government's shark strategy with the following technologies to be continued or implemented:

- helicopter surveillance
- shark barrier
- 4G listening stations
- shark tagging.

These are the first of several trials that will get underway across the state's beaches this summer as an integrated approach to working out a long-term solution.

The first field tests of drones have started in Coffs Harbour. The trials will test the effectiveness of drone technology in shark attack mitigation by feeding images back to the operator in real time, using GPS coordinates.

Smart drum lines, recommended in an independent report into shark technologies, will be trialled with the first line to be deployed in Ballina in December.

The NSW Government has also fast-tracked the delivery of two 4G listening stations which will be positioned at Sharpes Beach at Ballina and Clarkes Beach Byron Bay to provide real time tracking data of tagged sharks.

A further eight listening stations will be installed at: Tweed Heads, Lennox Head, Evans Head, Yamba, Coffs Harbour, South West Rocks, Port Macquarie, and Forster. Ten others will follow.

In addition to these measures, the NSW Government has increased aerial helicopter surveillance on the North Coast. Helicopters will fly at least three hours each day, weather permitting, from 1 December until 26 January 2016, flying from Byron Bay to Evans Head twice daily.

Vision from d5rone can be found here: hightail.com/download/ZWJYaXRNTkxicExsZThUQw

NSW Shark Management Strategy North Coast Proposed Roll Out

Location	Technologies
Tweed Heads	H, LS
Byron Bay	H, LS, T
Lennox Head	H, LS, T
Ballina	H, LS, T
Evans Head	H, LS, T
Yamba	H, LS
Coffs Harbour	H, LS, D, S
South West Rocks	H, LS
Port Macquarie	H, LS
Forster	H, LS

H helicopter surveillance
B shark barrier
LS 4G listening station
T shark tagging completed
D drone trial
S shark scientist – tagging

*confirmed to start December
 ^confirmed locations
 Byron Bay – Clarkes Beach
 Ballina – Sharpes Beach

Department of Primary Industries



new
 beach
 info
 website

Stay safe this summer and visit **MyBeachInfo**

Ballina Shire Council has just launched the MyBeachInfo website to provide up-to-date information on beach closures and openings along the Ballina Shire coastline.

“The recent spate of shark attacks has highlighted the need to further improve the beach information provided to the public,” General Manager of the Ballina Shire Council, Paul Hickey, said.

MyBeachInfo also provides links to information on what beaches are patrolled via BeachSafe.org.au

MyBeachInfo has been developed by Ballina Shire Council and Lismore City Council, as part of a NOROC resource sharing project. Future improvements will include the release of a mobile app which will provide similar functionality to the website, as well as the ability for users to receive a notification when their favourite beaches are updated.

So stay safe this summer and visit MyBeachInfo.com.au



ballina shire

AUSTRALIA DAY CELEBRATIONS

TUESDAY 26 JANUARY 2016
Lennox Head Cultural and Community Centre

*Take the FREE bus
this Australia Day*

Leave the car at home and make the most of our free bus service to the Australia Day ceremony at the Lennox Head Community Centre.

The FREE wheel chair accessible bus will pick-up from the following locations:

- 7.30am Main Street bus stop, Alstonville
- 7.45am West Tower Shopping Centre, Kalinga Street, West Ballina
- 8.00am Ballina Visitor Information Centre, 6 River Street, Ballina
- 8.05am Angels Beach Drive bus stop (opp Flat Rock Road)
- 8.15am Arrive at the Lennox Head Cultural and Community Centre

The bus will depart from the Community Centre at 11.30am, with planned drop-off times at the following locations:

- 11.45am Angels Beach Drive
- 11.55am Ballina Visitor Information Centre
- 12.05pm West Tower Shopping Centre
- 12.15pm Main Street, Alstonville

Seats are limited. Call the Ballina Visitor Information Centre on free call 1800 777 666 to book your seat.



BALLINA SHIRE COUNCIL IS 'FIT FOR THE FUTURE'...

Great news for Ballina Shire Council with the NSW Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART) declaring we are one of only 52 councils in the State that is Fit for the Future.

Earlier this year all councils in NSW were required to demonstrate to the NSW Government they were financially sustainable, efficient and had the scale and capacity to be viable in the future.

IPART reported it received 139 submissions and only 52 councils passed its benchmarks.

This means that we have not been identified as a council that should pursue amalgamations with our neighbouring councils.

Lismore, Byron and Richmond Valley Councils were also found to be Fit for the Future.



New Marine Rescue tower for Ballina

Ballina Shire Council has called tenders for the construction of the new tower. The contract for the successful tenderer will be awarded after the 17 December Council Meeting.

The NSW Government recently announced it would contribute another \$415,000 to the building of a new Marine Rescue Tower in Ballina. This brings the funding for the project to almost \$2 million. Council is contributing \$1,025 million and the State has allocated a total of \$965,000.

Estimates for the construction cost for the tower are \$2.2 million but we have decided to call for tenders because of the urgency of the project.

Marine Rescue volunteers have raised a commendable \$150,000 which will be used for the fit-out of the new building.

We are hoping work will start in February next year and be completed by June 2016.

road projects

1. 'Black Spot' Roadworks – River Street

Did you know that River Street in Ballina is the highest ranking accident black-spot in the Shire? Ballina Shire Council and the NSW Government, through its Safer Roads program, are jointly funding improvements to a section of River Street to reduce accidents and improve safety.

The work is being carried out along River Street at Tweed and Brunswick Streets. River Street will be widened to allow for a dedicated turning lane in both directions at Brunswick Street.

A central median strip on River Street will be extended from Kerr Street and a pedestrian refuge will be built between Tweed Street and Brunswick Street.

Work is expected to commence December 2015, with completion early 2016.

2. New roundabout for Links Avenue and Angels Beach Drive intersection

Another dangerous black spot in Ballina will be the focus of roadwork next year with a roundabout to be built at the intersection of Angels Beach Drive and Links Avenue at East Ballina.

The roadworks will include the resealing of sections of Angels Beach Drive and improvements to the road surface near Prospect Bridge and Chickiba Lake. Work will start in early 2016.

⚠️ Closure of Angels Beach Drive will be required for a period of time.

3. Teven Road, Teven

Thanks to the Australian Government's black spot funding, safety improvements will be made along part of Teven Road, between Shaws Lane and Eltham Road in early 2016.

⚠️ Road closures will be required for a period of time.

4. Fox Street, Ballina

The reconstruction of road pavement at Fox Street will be finalised in early 2016.

5. Ross Street, Lennox Head

Council has been working on widening the road, car parking and drainage works on Ross Street in Lennox Head. The majority of this work has been completed but the project will not be finished until after the summer holiday period.







6. Coastal shared path (West)

North Creek Road from Tara Downs to Amber Drive. Works currently underway and anticipated to be completed early December 2015.

7. Coastal shared path (East)

Angels Beach to Sharpes Beach. Pre-construction works are ongoing. Tenders advertised for part of construction, with contractor expected to be appointed mid December. Construction to start early 2016.



-  A shared path from the Angels Beach underpass to Flat Rock carpark and then through to the Sharpes Beach underpass.
-  A coastal walk from the Sharpes Beach underpass, built to National Parks and Wildlife standards, largely along the existing walking track through Boulder Beach and up to Pat Morton carpark.
-  A shared path from North Angels Beach, along the western side of The Coast Road to Sharpes Beach underpass.
-  A shared path from the Skennars Head / Headlands Drive intersection turning left along Skennars Head Road and then turning right up North Creek Road to Amber Drive.
-  A shared path from the Skennars Head / Headlands Drive intersection turning right along Skennars Head Road then turning left up the western side of The Coast Road, before crossing The Coast Road to connect to the Pat Morton Carpark.
-  Existing shared path

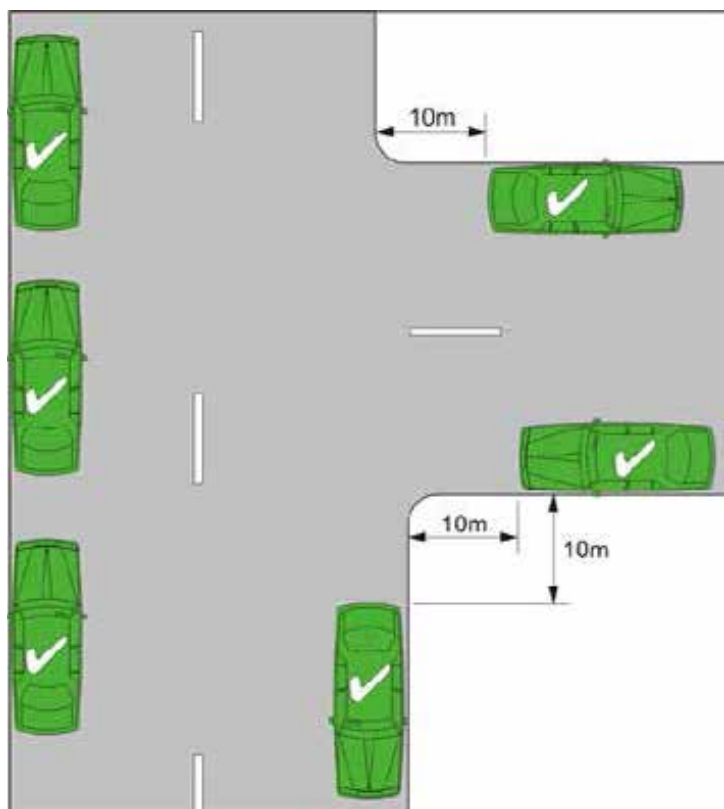


Are you parking too close to the intersection?

Parking rules are designed for road safety reasons. They give drivers a clearer view around intersections and pedestrian crossings, and they allow drivers and other road users to share road side parking in busy areas (such as around shops and near people's houses).

You must not stop or park your vehicle within 10 metres of an intersecting road at an intersection without traffic lights (unless a sign allows you to park there).

Parking too close to laneway entrances/ exits and intersections can lead to a \$248 fine.



\$\$\$

Ballina Shire Council has received more than \$2million in two years under the NSW Government's Safer Roads Program

DRIVE SAFE

SANTA MAY BEND THE RULES... BUT WE SHOULDN'T FOLLOW HIS LEAD....

Santa Claus is the one special fellow who can drive all night, with no sleep, break speed-distance records and overload his vehicle. The rest of us need to play it safe over the holiday season remembering the road safety rules for Christmas.



DON'T DRINK OR DRUG AND DRIVE

Get home safely. Plan ahead by organising overnight accommodation, share a taxi or get a lift with a friend.

Keep to the speed limit. Reduce your speed, drive to conditions and take extra care on country roads.



DON'T TRUST YOUR TIRED SELF

Being tired is bad for your driving. You may be tired from a long day, big night, working long hours, or concentrating for a long time on the road. Take a break every two hours. Look out for Driver Reviver stations.



DON'T GET DISTRACTED

Distracted drivers can cause traffic problems and crashes. Mobile phones are the biggest distraction. Turn your phone off and stay alert.



CLIP EVERY TRIP

Everyone in the vehicle, including driver and passengers, must wear a correctly fitted seatbelt. Children wearing a seatbelt are less likely to be injured or killed in a crash. If you have a sleeping child, don't lie them down in the back seat of the car. Make sure they are wearing their seatbelt.



LOOK OUT FOR PEDESTRIANS & CHILDREN

There are lots of people out and about at Christmas, especially around Christmas light displays at night. If you're walking, make safe decisions and hold hands with your child. If you're driving, keep an eye out for children and pedestrians who may be unpredictable. Every time you ride, ride to live. Motorcyclists should aim to be seen, look for hazards, and keep a safe riding distance.

Double demerit points apply from 24 December to 3 January inclusive.

engaged leadership

meet some locals

Tony and Barbara Potter



Tony and Barbara Potter have lived on their 65ha property at Tintenbar since 2002. They raised three children in the Blue Mountains and retired to the Ballina Shire to join two of their sons, Matthew and Gregg, daughter-in-law Kim, and grandson Kaius, who had moved to the Northern Rivers earlier. Their youngest son Tim is currently working in New York.

Tony and Barb's association with Ballina Shire goes back to the 1980s when they regularly brought the family here for their annual holidays. Tony used to work for Telecom, and they stayed in the Australian Postal Institute units which were located in Pine Avenue, East Ballina.

In 2003, whilst finalising building work on his property, Tony trod on a nail. This injury led to blood tests and a diagnosis of Acute Myeloid Leukaemia. During 2004 and 2005 Tony spent some nine months being treated at the Royal Brisbane Hospital.

Tony's treatment included a bone marrow transplant in June 2005. A suitable donor was located in Germany using the International Bone Marrow Register, following a failure to find a compatible Australian donor.

For much of this time Tony and Barb lived in Leukaemia Foundation accommodation in Brisbane. In 2005 they returned home with Tony in remission, and in time for the birth of their granddaughter Laila.

Tony and Barb celebrated 45 years of happy marriage in 2015. Tony also celebrated 10 years in remission.

The 10-year anniversary sparked renewed interest in Tony to identify his donor. He had been trying for several years without success armed only with a photo of the bone marrow container and its German registration number.

In August 2015 Tony received news that his donor had agreed for his details to be released. He has now been in regular email contact with his German donor. Tony and Barb hope to visit the donor in the near future to personally thank him for his gift of life.

Tony and Barb keep busy maintaining the farm which they affectionately call the "Potterosa", travelling and in Tony's case also co-ordinating the Leukaemia Foundation's Northern Rivers Patient Transport Program.

Tony has been the voluntary co-ordinator of the program since January 2009. There are presently 17 volunteer drivers in the transport team and two sponsored transport vehicles. They perform 70-90 transport trips per month for patients requiring medical appointments and treatment in Lismore with occasional trips to Brisbane.

An average of 5000km are clocked up each month by the drivers which also include Tony and Barb who regularly help out to fill roster gaps. Some 180 patients are currently registered and eligible for Leukaemia Foundation transport.

Tony and Barb are very happy with their tranquil and casual lifestyle here in Ballina Shire. They both love the closeness of their family and the regular visits from their granddaughter Laila. They think the biggest changes they have seen are the Ballina Central development in Kerr Street, the Ballina Bypass, and the refurbishment of River Street. In terms of what they would like to change if they could, Tony thought River Street, Ballina could benefit by more car parking, and Barb thought a greater variety of specialty shops would be convenient.

Sophia and Josh take out Novaskill Awards

Congratulations to two Ballina Shire Council trainees, Joshua Writer and Sophia Medina, who were recognised at the recent Novaskill Awards.

Joshua won the Building Construction and Utilities/Water Operations Excellence Award. Joshua has been with Ballina Shire Council since May 2014 and is employed at the Ballina Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Manager Water and Wastewater, Tim Mackney, said Joshua has been an excellent trainee, and has applied himself very well working as a treatment plant operator. He has performed his role to a high standard and shown real interest in his studies and the work Council does. What set Josh apart, has been his initiative and willingness to take on new challenges. He has become a real asset, and is a valued member of the team.

Sophia Medina won the Non-traditional Trade Apprentice of the Year. Sophia is a trainee parks and gardens officer with our Open Spaces and Reserves team. She has been with Council since January 2015.

Cheyne Willebrands, Manager Open Spaces and Resource Recovery, said Sophia was an asset to the open spaces team who is always smiling and hard working. Her willingness to learn and perform at such a high standard will see her develop into a future leader of the horticultural industry.





BALLINA SHIRE COUNCIL CREATING FUTURES

Ballina Shire Council is the biggest employer in our Shire with 300 staff. We are particularly focused on providing a range of career opportunities for our young residents and we currently have 22 apprentices and trainees working in horticulture, mechanical, water operations, building, electrical, civil construction, administration and as rangers.

We also have a committed team of staff working with people with a range of disabilities, providing meaningful work in our community.

Over the last 12 years we have engaged more than 119 trainees and apprentices and we will continue to provide career training and jobs for our younger residents.

If you would like to know more about opportunities at Ballina Shire Council call the Human Resources Team on 6686 4444.

Who is Daisy?

Violence against women is unacceptable. Daisy is an app that connects women around Australia to services.

Daisy can link you up with a service phone number, be used to search the internet for more information and let you know what to expect when contacting a service. Family members and friends can use Daisy to gather information and support a loved one's decision making.

For more information visit 1800respect.org.au/daisy



staff profile Jenny Hellyer



In this issue we profile Jenny Hellyer, Coordinator of Waste Management. Jenny is an avid surfer and stand up paddle board rider. During the day, Jenny coordinates the day-to-day operations at the Ballina Waste Management Centre. We also congratulate Jenny and her partner Todd who recently got married.

Where were you born and raised? I was born and raised on the Gold Coast, the southern end of Palm Beach. I was educated there and then went to uni at Griffith University.

What were you doing before you came to the Ballina Shire? I was working at Gold Coast City Council for 8 years as an Environmental Health Officer where I specialised in Waste Management for 5 years.

What drew you to Ballina Shire? I use to come down here quite a bit surfing, particularly in my early 20s. I met my partner here and it was just waiting for the opportunity to make the move to Ballina.

How long have you been with Ballina Shire Council? I've been here for 3 years, first as an Environmental Health Officer (maternity relief). My current role is Coordinator Waste Management.

What does your role entail? Looking after the operations at the Waste Management Centre and the Collection Trucks. Working out staffing and bin collection logistics as well as all the activities at the Waste Centre such as ensuring we are operating in accordance with EPA licensing guidelines. We are currently constructing two green waste compost pads

(60 metres x 20 metres) and need to manage odour, leachate and undertake gas monitoring and water sampling.

What else is happening at the Waste Management Centre? There's a lot going on. We're in the middle of constructing a new Community Recycling Centre and also a Revolve Shop. These two new projects will improve the way we collect problem waste and also provide another option for the community to reuse and upcycle waste. (Read more about these two projects on pages 24 and 25)

What's your favourite aspect of the role? Definitely the diversity of the role and waste management is always changing and improving.

What do you do in your spare time? I surf a lot. I also compete in Stand Up Paddle and short-board competitions. This year I took a bit of a sabbatical organising our wedding, but will compete again next year. I also love food, but good quality wholefood. I'm a bit addicted to making kombucha; it's a delicious, healing and detoxifying fermented drink.

In developing the Ballina Major Regional Centre Strategy we've been asking three short questions: What do you like about Ballina, what would you like to see change, and what should remain the same? I love that it's not busy and built up like the Gold Coast. Everything we need we can easily access and we're not too far from other centres if we need to get away. One thing I'd like to see is more exercise equipment in our open spaces to help promote and healthy and active lifestyle. In whatever changes are made, we should be conscious to retain the natural beauty of the area.

connected community





arts connect

DECEMBER 2015

current exhibitions

A Change in the Weather Caroline McKay



Caroline McKay takes pleasure in the micro landscape, the individual small things that often go unseen, such as flora and fauna, rocks, sticks, leaves, bugs, bark and shells. Inspired by this micro world, the artist creates visual landscapes as a personal mapping of her natural environment, inviting visitors to experience the beauty in wonder in the everyday.

Exhibition Dates: 9 December 2015 – 17 January 2016
Launch Event: Thursday 10 December 2015

Image: *Give Me Sunshine*, Caroline McKay

Little Abstracts Katie Alleva



Katie's work is a poetic response to issues surrounding climate change and all things related to outer space and scientific discovery. The work contemplates our desire to control the natural order of things and therefore, considers humanity's aspiration to contain entropy.

Exhibition Dates: 9 December 2015 – 17 January 2016
Launch Event: Thursday 10 December 2015

Image: *Crescent Moon*, Katie Alleva

Group Show Bernadette Curtin, Merrilee Pettinato and Kelly Zarb



Three local artists come together in this exhibition, to present their varied expressions of an obsession with nature. Bernadette Curtin presents playful interpretations of reefs and rock pools through a series of paintings. Merrilee Pettinato creates fine botanical renderings using minute brushes on paper and large format oil paintings. Kelly Zarb has developed a formula of geometric shapes and repetitive dot sequences to explore unity. These elements create the backdrop for the universe at large.

Exhibition Dates: 9 December 2015 – 17 January 2016
Launch Event: Thursday 10 December 2015

Image: *Embraced Beginnings*, Kelly Zarb

upcoming exhibitions

Exhibition Dates: 20 January – 14 February 2016
Launch Event: Thursday 21 January 2016



Bluestockings
Amanda Bromfield

Image: *Indigo*, Amanda Bromfield



The Palisades: Stories of the Mountain
Imbi Davidson

Image: *Of Old Souls*, Imbi Davidson



Symphosize
Steve Waller

Image: *Owl #1*, Steve Waller



Belles- Lettres
Hannah Massey and Nathalie Verdejo

Image: *A Heroes Journey*, Hannah Massey



art at the airport

Susan Jacobsen



Deeply inspired by the diverse and wild Australian landscape, particularly in northern NSW, Susan Jacobsen's paintings are site-specific abstractions. Capturing an emotional response to her surroundings, Jacobsen's dynamic works are spared of specific location detail and tell of places or moments in the landscape for which the artist shares a deep affinity.

Exhibition Dates: 4 November 2015 – 6 January 2016

Image: *Salt Marsh*, Susan Jacobsen

Duke Albada



You Are Here - Peregrination is an artistic video chronicle of a personal road trip researching my connection to country. Though I commence with a physical journey the artwork exposes my deep affection with and concerns about country and culture through an intimate survey featuring a macro view of the natural world.

Exhibition Dates: 6 January 2016 – 2 March 2016

Image: *Pilliga Sunset*, Duke Albada

ART AT THE AIRPORT

artist profile

Mon Manabu



Mon Manabu is a contemporary artist from Barcelona, living and working in the Northern Rivers. Her range of work includes mixing her own handmade-digital drawings, acrylic paintings and photographs together and then transferring these images to a canvas or wooden surface. Mon Manabu's jewellery showcase her way of seeing nature, the handmade pendants are unique pieces of wearable art. Made on slices of a tree branch with images of nature, the piece is both highly original and beautiful. Pieces of Mon Manabu's jewellery and small artworks are available in the Gallery Shop.

ARTIST PROFILE

connected community

the gallery shop



From left: Tree of Life Pendant, Gold Tree Postcard, Gold Tree Pendant

THE GALLERY SHOP is the perfect spot to find an entirely unique gift. Products include ceramics, jewellery, scarves and so much more. All products are hand-made by artisans of the Northern Rivers. Shop locally and support your creative community.



northern rivers
community
gallery



What's on? COMMUNITY EVENTS

Events listed here are programmed to be from 11 December 2015 to 27 February 2016.



for further information
on events in the Ballina Shire visit discoverballina.com or telephone 1800 777 666.

ALSTONVILLE CHRISTMAS IN THE PARK

FRIDAY 11TH DECEMBER
Elizabeth Ann Brown Park, Alstonville

Like us on Facebook



Get ready Alstonville, the countdown to Christmas has almost begun and the combined churches of Alstonville and Wollongbar look forward to hosting the Alstonville Christmas in the Park.

Join in and sing Christmas Carols led by entertainers Awesome Voices and be dazzled by our local preschool and school children as they perform a range of Christmas songs.

Enjoy the free sausage sizzle, ice blocks, Christmas crafts, jumping castle and 'living nativity'. Come and pet the nursery animals and have your face painted at this free family event.

RIVERSIDE CAROLS

SUNDAY 13 DECEMBER
6.30pm – 9pm
Seagulls Football Oval, Ballina
riversidecarols.org.au



Riverside Carols is an alcohol free community event for all the family to enjoy.

It is hosted every year by the combined churches of Ballina and Lennox Head.

Local schools, choirs and various artists will perform on the community stage from 6pm before the main event. Carols will commence on the main stage at 7.30pm.

Bring your blanket and enjoy a night of traditional Christmas carols, then see the sky light up with a fantastic fireworks display. There will be food and drink vendors and kids face painting. Gold coin donation on entry, all funds raised go to charity (BSREA).

ALSTONVILLE NYE FAMILY FESTIVAL

31 DECEMBER
Alstonville Showgrounds

Like us on facebook

Come and join us for the Alstonville NYE Family Festival at the Alstonville Showgrounds from 5pm to 10pm. We have lots of kids' rides, live music, a pantomime and entertainment from 6pm.

The event is alcohol free and security will be onsite. It's a bargain at only \$2 per person entry with loads of car parking available.

ABSOLUTE KAOS TOUR

3 JANUARY 2016
Ballina Jockey Club
Absolutekaos.com



Absolute Kaos is a show like no other! Live DJs alongside Australia's best freestyle moto, bmx and scooter riders.

This is an action packed sports event and includes a fireworks display. Food and drink available on site.

Tickets available at outix.com.au

NORTH COAST STREET MACHINES SHOW-N-SHINE

10 JANUARY
Seagulls Football Oval, Ballina
northcoaststreetmachines.com.au



The popular North Coast Street Machine annual "Show-n-Shine" will be held at Seagulls Football Oval grounds on Sunday 10 January. Car setup will be from 7am, with gates opening to the public from 9am.

There will be street machines, vintage and veteran cars, hot rods and special interest vehicles, trade displays, full catering, tappet cover racing, a wheel changing competition and plenty to keep everyone occupied.

Australian Street Machine Federation members will be judging the top 10 vehicles and with many other trophies up for grabs. It truly is a show not to miss!

AUSTRALIA DAY OFFICIAL CEREMONY

26 JANUARY
Lennox Head Cultural and Community Centre
ballina.nsw.gov.au

See the cover page and page 5 for details.

B-SPACE YOUTH CENTRE LAUNCH

27 FEBRUARY 2016
2pm – 6pm, Swift Street, Ballina
 Like us on facebook

See page 13 for details.



CALLING ALL YOUTH!

BSPACE – the new Ballina Youth Centre – is in the middle of a transformational renovation process thanks to ideas from over 1,000 students across the Ballina Shire.

To celebrate and launch this exciting new community initiative, a FREE family friendly event will be held on Saturday 27th February 2016 between 2pm – 6pm.

There will be live music, free workshops (how to build a woodfire pizza oven as well as your own musical instrument and much more), market stalls, great food and an art and photography exhibition showcasing local student works.

B-Space will open its doors over the Christmas school holiday period to all Ballina Shire youth. So come and relax, learn new skills and socialise with other young and friendly folk. Free workshops are planned and everyone is welcome.

For more information about B-Space, the launch event, or to get involved, please contact Youth Centre Manager Abe Stewart on 6686 7776.

B-Space is an FSG Australia initiative.

The Missingham Farmers Market

Visit the Missingham Farmers Markets on a Sunday morning and you will find a great array of our Shire's fresh local produce. Local farmers gather on site from 6am to sell avocados, macadamia nuts, vine ripened tomatoes, local honey, bananas, salad greens, flowers, potatoes, coffee, as well as strawberries and stone fruit when in season. Some of our local farmers have been selling from this site for many years.

Jo Smith and her family have been harvesting and selling passionfruit, tomatoes, pineapples and bananas from their Brooklet farm for over 25 years.

Over the years Jo has got to know many of her customers and feels that it is one of the best things about the Missingham Farmers market, "I like dealing direct with the public, we get to talk about our produce and provide advice if they are trying to grow their own. We get to know our customers, many have been coming to the market for years; we have watched each other's families grow. Some of our customers are holiday makers that visit us every time they holiday in Ballina to say hello, catch up and get some local produce to take home with them."

The Missingham Farmers Market is on every Sunday morning from 6 till 11 am at Missingham Park Kingsford Smith Drive, Ballina.



The Ballina Twilight Market in Fawcett Park will again come to life this summer.

The market will be held every Thursday between 4pm and 8pm until the end of February. Come along and enjoy the live music, exotic stalls, food and coffee as well as the beautiful sunsets on the Richmond River.

For further details, contact the market manager Steve Cooke on 0478 163 038.



market calendar

There is a market or two held every weekend in the Ballina Shire. Discover original artworks, handicrafts, fashion, jewellery, second hand goods, as well as fresh local produce...or just sit back, relax and enjoy the sights and sounds of your local market.

Alstonville Farmers Market

Alstonville Showground
Every Saturday
8am – 12pm
0478 163 038

Ballina Missingham Farmers Market

Kingsford Smith Drive
Every Sunday
6am – 12pm
0416 048 241

Lennox Community Market

Lennox Head Cultural & Community Centre
2nd & 5th Sunday
8am – 2pm
0419 369 609

The Plateau Market

Alstonville Showground
2nd Sunday
8am – 2pm
0478 163 038

Ballina Market

Canal Road
3rd Sunday
7am – 1pm
6686 4546

connected community



what's on at your local community facility

Ballina Shire Council provides a range of quality spaces that cater for thousands of bookings every year; from community meetings and events to private functions, recreational classes and corporate seminars. All of these spaces are available to hire by individuals, community groups, businesses and organisations.

To hire a community space, please contact one of our friendly staff on 02 6687 6291 or email communityspaces@ballina.nsw.gov.au

To find out what is happening in your local community space follow our Facebook page, or download a copy of our "What's On" newsletter at ballina.nsw.gov.au/communityspaces



LENNOX HEAD CULTURAL & COMMUNITY CENTRE (LHCCC)
1 Mackney Lane, Lennox Head



KENTWELL COMMUNITY CENTRE (KCC)
20 Bangalow Road, Ballina



BALLINA SURF CLUB FUNCTION ROOMS (BALLINA SC)
65 Lighthouse Parade, Ballina



THE RICHMOND ROOM (RR)
Regatta Avenue, Ballina



ALSTONVILLE LEISURE & ENTERTAINMENT CENTRE (ALEC)
42 – 46 Commercial Road, Alstonville

HOBBIES, INTEREST GROUPS & EDUCATION

AMORC
KCC
3rd Saturday of the Month
2:00pm – 4:00pm
Lyn 0401 766 754
amorc.org.au

Ballina Camera Club
KCC
2nd and 4th Thursdays of the Month
6:00pm – 9:00pm
Mark 02 6686 6915
mark@ballinacamera.club

Broadband for Seniors
KCC
Mondays
9:00am – 12:00pm
Thursdays
9:30am – 12:30pm
1:00pm – 4:00pm
02 6687 6291

Sing Australia
KCC
Every Tuesday Evening
7:00pm – 9:00pm
Barbara 02 6628 1557
0412 660 472

The Silver Smiths
KCC
Every Wednesday Evening
5:00pm – 6:00pm
Helen 02 6681 6357 or
Jennie 02 6686 5663

The Lennox Head Country Women's Association
LHCCC
Every Monday
9:00am – 1:00pm
Jan 6687 6929

The Lennox Head Residents Association
LHCCC
1st Monday of every month
7.00am – 9.00am
Margaret 6687 5534

The Lennox Head Landcare
LHCCC
Meetings – Monday quarterly
7:00pm – 9:00pm
Working bees – Wednesday mornings 8:30am – 10:30am
Shaun 6687 6323 or
0448 221 210

Ballina Uniting Church
LHCCC
1st & 3rd Sunday of the month
9:00am – 11.00am
David 6686 8846 or
balluc2@westnet.com.au

COMMUNITY SERVICES

Northern Rivers No Interest Loans
KCC
Tuesdays 10:00am – 4:00pm
02 6621 7397

Interrelate Ltd: Outreach Program
KCC
Wednesdays and Fridays
9:00am – 5:00pm
Phone 02 6623 2750

Northern Rivers Gambling Counselling Service
KCC
By Appointment
Phone 02 6687 2520
buttery.org.au

RSL Tibouchina Day Club
ALEC
Wednesdays 10:00am – 2:00pm
Marette 02 6624 2714

Ballina Lighthouse RSL Day Club
Richmond Room
Thursdays
10:00am – 2:00pm
Fay 02 6686 3517
Lorraine 02 6687 4350

HEALTH & WELLBEING

Australian Red Cross Blood Service
RR
Various Mondays and Tuesdays each Month
Mon 1:30pm – 7:00pm
Tues 9:00am – 2:00pm
Pre arrange an appointment
Phone 13 14 95

Breast Cancer Support Group
KCC
1st Thursday of the Month
10:00am – 11:30am
Robyn 0413 027 446

General Cancer Support Group
KCC
1st Wednesday of the month
11:30am – 1:00pm
02 6639 1300

Bulk Billing Psychologist
LHCCC
Every Tuesday
8:00am – 5:00pm
Chris 0413 725 471

Cannabis Clinic
KCC
Every Tuesday
9:30am – 3:30pm
1300 664 098



Deirdre Middlehurst Clinical Psychologist

LHCCC
Every Thursday
8.00am – 5.00pm
Deirdre 0481 094 709

INTRA: The Buttery's Drug & Alcohol Outreach Program

KCC
Wednesdays
1:30pm – 3:00pm
Phone 02 6687 2835

Paediatrician

LHCCC
Every Wednesday & Friday
8:00am – 6:00pm
Dr Uli Schmidt 02 5622 6020
reception@drulrikeschmidt.com

Health & Wellness Meeting

KCC
11 Nov 6:45pm – 9:00pm
Louise 0431 473 520
Glenn 0414 410 645

YOGA, DANCE & EXERCISE

Feldenkrais Movement Class

LHCCC
Every Tuesday
4:30pm – 5:30pm
Lyn 02 6687 6815

Over 65's Fitness – Forever Young

Ballina SC
Wednesdays
9:00am – 10:00am
1300 085 181

Healthy Lifestyles by CHEGS

LHCCC
Every Tuesday
10:00am – 11:00am
02 6620 7523 / 0409 349 891

Physical Culture

ALEC
Every Tuesday
3:30pm – 7:00pm
Jenna 0406 774 992

Purna Yoga with Tamika

Ballina SC
Every Thursday
6:00pm – 7:00pm
Tamika 0439 451 493

Iyengar Yoga

LHCCC
Every Wednesday
6:00pm – 7:00pm
Liz 0402 770 441

Yoga for Pregnancy

LHCCC
Every Saturday
2:00pm – 3:00pm
Reni 0410 552 701

Kids Capoeira

LHCCC
Every Monday
4:00pm – 5:00pm
Eurico 0430 445 540

Brazilian Mix Dance Classes

LHCCC
Every Monday
5:30pm – 6:30pm
Eurico 0430 445 540

Stretch and Strength

LHCCC
Every Monday
6:00pm – 7:00pm
Roberta 0432 572 507

Lifeworks – Pilates

LHCCC
Mon, Tue and Wed
Mon & Wed 4.45pm
Tue 6.00pm
Alison 0415 784 214

SPORT, GAMES AND COMPETITIONS

Alstonville Aikido

ALEC
Mondays and Wednesdays
7:30pm – 9:00pm
Jim 0404 281 003

Alstonville Lifeball

ALEC
Every Monday
10:00am – 12:00pm
Julie 0413 086 325

Ballina Netball Association

ALEC
Tuesdays & Thursdays
6:00pm – 9:30pm
Talita 0488 288 827

Lennox Head Lifeball

LHCCC
Every Tuesday
9:30am – 11:30am
Yvonne 0448 004 161
Trish 0411 272 685

United Gymnastics Academy

ALEC
Mon, Wed, Thu and Fri
4:00pm
Kindy Gym Mon and Fri
9:30am
Alison 02 6628 3533

KIDS & BABIES

Angelina Ballerina Dance Academy

LHCCC
Every Tuesday
10am – 11am
0414 827 155

Lennox Head Playgroup

LHCCC
Tuesdays and Fridays
9:30am – 11:30am
(during school terms only)
Jessica
02 6687 5745

Kidz Klub

LHCCC
January School holidays
6-8 Jan
13-15 Jan
20-22 Jan
9:30am – 4:00pm
6687 6291

Kids French in Action

LHCCC
Every Thursday
4:00pm – 5:00pm (5-6 yrs)
5:00pm – 6:00pm (7-10 yrs)
0481 355 773

Child & Family Health

LHCCC
Every Wednesday
9:00am – 3:00pm
02 6686 8977

IN THE LIBRARIES

Alstonville Book Club

ALEC
2nd Wednesday each month
2:00pm
3rd Friday each month
10:30am
Alstonville Library
6628 5527

Baby Booktime

ALEC 02 6628 5527
Thursday 10:30am
Ballina 02 6686 2831
Monday 10:30am
LHCCC 02 6687 6398
Wednesday 10:30am

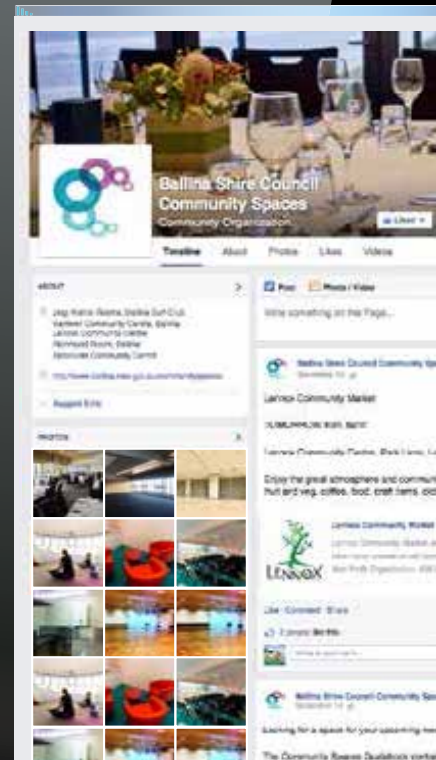
Story Time

ALEC 02 6628 5527
Tuesday 11:00am
Ballina 02 6686 2831
Tuesday & Friday 11:00am
LHCCC 02 6687 6398
Thursday 10:30am

UPCOMING EVENTS

Lennox Head Community Markets

LHCCC
2nd and 5th Sunday each month
8:00am – 2:00pm
0419 369 609



like us on facebook

Ballina Shire Council Community Spaces is not only about great venues to hire for your function or event.

Every day, across all of our spaces, we host a wide range of classes, activities and events.

To keep up to date with what's happening in your local community, and across the entire Ballina Shire, join us on Facebook to receive all the latest news.

 [facebook.com/bsccommunityspaces](https://www.facebook.com/bsccommunityspaces)





What to do during the **SCHOOL HOLIDAYS**

Looking for something to do with the kids or grandchildren over the school holidays? There's something to satisfy all interests including educational, sporty and creative activities to keep the kids entertained.

EDUCATIONAL

Water Lab Wednesdays

6, 13 and 20 January
Visit the Rous Water Science Lab and take on fun Water Challenges including identifying water bugs under a microscope, floating boats, finding hidden water and measuring invisible water
Open 10am-3pm (last entry 2pm)
Have a day of water science fun and follow with a picnic, play and bushwalk at Rocky Creek Dam
Ages 5 to 14 years with a supervising adult
Dorroughby Environmental Education Centre, 2101 Dunoon Road, Dorroughby
watersciencelab.com.au

Australian Seabird Rescue Tours

Tours commence Monday 4 to Friday 22 January
Monday to Fridays during school holidays from 10am to 11am
\$5 entry fee
264 North Creek Road, Ballina
Ph: 6686 2852
Email: admin@seabirdrescue.org
seabirdrescue.org

Ballina Library

Various activities call for details and bookings
8 River Street, Ballina
Ph: 6686 2831
Email: rtrl@rtrl.nsw.gov.au
rtrl.nsw.gov.au/site/index.php

Lennox Head Library Workshop

Saturday Storytime with Santa, 19 December (3-10 years) -10am
January School Holidays Workshops – Bookings Essential
Make a brooch (8+ years), Thursday 7 at 2pm
Bag printing (5+ years), Monday 11 at 2pm
Science Show (7+ years), Thursday 14 at 10am

Gizmos and Gadgets at 2pm,
Monday 18 (8+ years),
Tuesday 19 (5+ years),
Wednesday 20 (8+ years),
Thursday 21 (5+years)
Lennox Head Cultural & Community Centre, Park Lane, Lennox Head
Ph: 6687 6398
Email: rtrl@rtrl.nsw.gov.au
rtrl.nsw.gov.au/site/index.php

Ballina Naval & Maritime Museum

Collect a kids worksheet to explore the history & enjoy the extensive displays
Open 7 days – 9am to 4pm
Regatta Avenue, Ballina
Ph: 6681 1002
ballinamaritimemuseum.org.au

FAMILY FUN

Amaze N Place

Free alpaca feeding every day at 11am plus lattice maze, puzzles, sandpit, cubby house, wet weather activities and café
Open 10am – 4.30pm during school holidays only
149 Wardell Road, Alstonville
Ph: 6628 6286
amaze-n-place.com.au

Ballina Tenpin Bowl

Holiday Special – Two Games for \$15. Glow in the Dark Bowling 12-4pm and after 7pm
Open 7 days
16 Clark Street, Ballina
Ph: 6686 5342
ballinatenpinbowl.com.au

Macadamia Castle

Holiday Workshops:
Keeper for a day (12-18yrs) \$125 pp maximum 8 people per workshop 8:30am – 3:30pm
Wildlife Guardians (7-11yrs) \$75 pp maximum 15 people per workshop 8:30am – 3:30pm
Full program of activities every day: keeper talks, animal feeding, face painting, Free Flight Bird Show + Meet Minnie the Wombat.
Open 7 days – 8am-5pm (except Christmas Day)
1699 Pacific Highway, Knockrow
Ph: 6687 8432
Email: info@macadamiacastle.com.au
macadamiacastle.com.au

Summerland House Farm

6-22 January
Wednesdays and Fridays
9:30am – 12:30pm
Artie Fartie in the Water Park \$5pp
10, 17 & 24 January – 9am-3pm
Sunday Family Fun Day – Pony Rides, Laser Skirmish, Water Park, Tractor Tours, Mini Golf, Live Music in the Cafe
Open 7 days – 9am-4pm
253 Wardell Road, Alstonville
Ph: 6628 0610
summerlandhousefarm.com.au

Teven Valley Golf Course + FOOTGOLF

Beautiful 9 hole golf course and from midday enjoy FootGolf – a hybrid of golf & soccer
Great fun for the whole family
Open 7 days – 8am to dusk
1684 Eitham Road, Teven
Ph: 6687 8386
tevenvalleygolfcourse.com.au

Thursday Plantation

Enjoy the Verandah Café, Rainforest Walk, Sculpture Garden and Tea Tree Maze
Open weekdays from 9am-5pm and weekends from 10am-4pm
Gallans Road, Ballina
Ph: 6620 5150
thursdayplantation.com

Ballina Fair Cinemas

New release movies:
Boxing Day – The Good
Dinosaur, Alvin and the Chipmunks 4: The Road Chips
1 January – The Peanuts Movie
14 January – Goosebumps
Open 7 days
Cnr Kerr & Fox Streets, Ballina
Ph: 6686 9600
ballina.info/cinema

Cherry Street Sports Club

18 December 4pm – Kids Christmas Party – FREE entry. Fun with Polly Esta, party games, face painting, balloon twisting and Santa.
FREE twilight disco at 6:30pm with DJ Mitchy Witchy
8, 15 & 22 January 4-6pm – Friday School Holiday Fun – Fun with Polly Esta, party games, face painting, balloon twisting. Kids Movie on the big screen and free popcorn at 6:30pm.

Tennis Court & Racquet hire, barefoot bowls, playground and outdoor TV
Open 7 days
Cnr Cherry & Bentinck Streets, Ballina
Ph: 6686 2811
Email: info@cherrystreet.com.au
cherrystreet.com.au

Crystal Castle

Discover a magical place of giant crystals, sacred statues, stunning rainforest, gardens, daily experiences, unique jewellery and fresh food.
Enrich your spirit.
Open 7 days a week
10am to 5pm
81 Monet Drive, Mullumbimby
Ph: 6684 3111
Email: info@crystalcastle.com.au
crystalcastle.com.au

Richmond Princess River Cruises

Enjoy morning or afternoon tea aboard the Richmond Princess cruising the Richmond River.
Weather permitting
Sundays
10am – 12pm and/or 2pm – 4pm
Bookings essential
Additional cruises may be scheduled according to demand
Regatta Avenue, Ballina
Ph: 1800 777 666
rrcruises.com.au

Lake Ainsworth

Splash in the fresh and therapeutic tea-tree waters or enjoy a picnic or BBQ with facilities available
Pacific Parade, Lennox Head

Victoria Park Nature Reserve

300m boardwalk loop with BBQ and picnic facilities in the picturesque "Big Scrub" Rainforest remnant. Collect the 30 Great Walks brochure from the Visitor Centre for many more walks in the region.
Victoria Park Road, Dalwood
Ph: 6627 0200
nationalparks.nsw.gov.au



Ballina Memorial Pool and Waterslides

Three pools: toddlers pool, learn-to-swim pool, 50m Olympic pool & two waterslides
Open daily
4 River Street, Ballina
Ph: 6686 3771

Alstonville Olympic Pool

Three pools: toddlers pool, learn-to-swim pool, and 50m Olympic pool
Open daily
8 Freeborn Place, Alstonville
Ph: 6628 0826

Ballina Fair Swim & Gym

Indoor heated pool
Open daily
Ballina Fair Shopping Centre
Ph: 6686 8299

Lennox Aquatic Centre

Indoor heated pool
Open Mon – Sat
128 Newrybar Swamp Road (Off Ross Lane)
Ph: 6687 8800

Ballina Boat Hire

Tinnies or BBQ boats for hire
Available 7 days a week
268 River Street, Ballina
Ph: 0402 028 767

SPORTY FUN

Kayak Ballina

Guided Kayak Tours of Ballina's beautiful waterways. Basic skills lesson included
Open 7 days
Bookings essential
Ph: 6681 4000
kayakballina.com

Tassiriki Ranch Beach Horse Riding

Daily tours, lessons, trail and beach rides
Open 7 days
Moylans Road, Empire Vale
Ph: 6683 4602
tassirikiranch.com.au

Pegasus Park Horse Riding

Daily tours, lessons, trail and beach rides
Open 6 days
946 Friday Hut Road, Binnaburra
Ph: 6687 1446 or 0428 871 446
pegasuspark.com.au

Lennox Head Sport & Recreation Centre

Camp adventure activities
Kids club (day only)
11 – 15 January and
18 – 22 January
for 7 -12yo – \$55
includes lunch
Bookings essential: 6687 7168
dsr.nsw.gov.au

Lennox Head Skate Park

Park Lane, Lennox Head

Missingham Skate Park

Kingsford Smith Drive, Ballina

Classic Aero Adventure Flights

Take a flight in a genuine ex-RAAF warbird plane
Departs Ballina-Byron Gateway Airport
Southern Cross Drive, Ballina
Ph: 0432 318 282
classicaero.com.au

Aussie Air Charter & Training

See Ballina and Byron Bay from the air
Departs Ballina-Byron Gateway Airport
Southern Cross Drive, Ballina
Ph: 6681 3599
aussieair.info

Air T & G Helicopters

Surf the Sky on one of the various helicopter tours
Departs Ballina-Byron Gateway Airport
Southern Cross Drive, Ballina
Ph: 6681 4915
airtg.com.au

The Bicycle Emporium

Hire a retro or fat bike and explore the cycleways
Open 7 days
158 River Street, Ballina
Ph: 6681 4054
thebicycleemporium.com.au

Sunrise Cycles

Hire a bike and ride along the Richmond River cycleways
Mon-Fri 8am-5.30pm and Sat 8am – 2:30pm
3 Hogan Street, Ballina
Ph: 6686 6322
facebook.com/sunrisecyclesballinabyron

Transition Cycles

Hire a bike and ride along the Richmond River cycleways
Mon – Fri
8:30am – 5pm
and Sat
9am – 1pm
49 River Street, Ballina
Ph: 6686 6522
transitioncycles.com.au

Surf Lessons with Kool Katz

Lessons for beginner or intermediate level with all equipment provided.
Pick up & drop off available
Daily lessons
Open 7 days
Ballina & Lennox Head
Ph: 6685 5169
M: 0419 207 965
koolkatzsurf.com

Surf and Stand Up Paddle Board Lessons with Mojo Surf

Learn how to surf or Stand Up Paddle board
All equipment provided
Daily lessons
Open 7 days
Ballina & Lennox Head
Ph: 1800 113 044
Open 7am-7pm Mon-Fri
9:30am-5:30pm weekends
mojosurf.com

Impact Tennis (Ballina Tennis Club)

School holiday tennis tournament
(7-18 years of age)
Mon 21 – Tues 22 December
8am-1pm daily
\$60 per player for 3 days,
\$25 per day,
\$50 for second child in family
(\$150 for 3 or more from same family)
Ph: To register contact Brandon Rowe on 0400403323
Email: impacttennis.net.au@gmail.com

The Ballina Tennis Club

New Year Open Tournament
Saturday 2 January –
Tuesday 5 January
Free Admission
For more information visit
ballinatennis.com.au/

GET CREATIVE

Kidz Klub at Lennox Head Cultural and Community Centre

6 January – 22 January,
Wednesday to Friday
\$20 per session per child or
\$40 per child full day
Morning, Afternoon or Full Day
Bookings essential
1 Mackney Lane,
Lennox Head
Ph: 6687 6291

Alstonville Dance Studio Holiday School

All styles of dance and creative arts including Classical Ballet, Contemporary, Tap and Jazz, Hip Hop, Cabaret and Creative Arts
Open to all people with and without disabilities – all ages – all levels – boys and beginners welcome.
20-23 January
9am – 5pm
Ph: 0428 748 294

Lennox Arts Collective

Tuesday Kids Art Classes
29 December, 5, 12 & 19
January – suits ages 5-10
\$20 all inclusive
Ballina Street, Lennox Head
Ph: Contact Fiona Reddoch
0403 841 330



If you are hosting school holiday activities in the Ballina Shire, contact the Ballina Visitor Information Centre on telephone 1800 777 666 or email your details to balinfo@ballina.nsw.gov.au. Activities will be included in the School Holidays Program which is available to visitors of the Ballina Visitor Information Centre and online at discoverballina.com

ballina coast & hinterland



ballina base motorcycle touring guide

The motorcycle industry is a vital contributor to the national economy, contributing \$3.6 billion per year.

The Ballina Latte Warriors, with Peter Richardson as their spokesperson, could see the potential of tapping into the motorcycle tourism market. So Peter approached Council with a prototype touring guide, based on a similar guide produced by Lithgow Council.

The Ballina Base Motorcycle Guide includes eighteen touring and enduro rides that stretch north to Nerang, south to Grafton and west to Tenterfield. With all the suggested rides bringing the rider back to base in beautiful Ballina.

“When our touring group rides throughout NSW and interstate, each couple usually spends up to \$330 a day on accommodation, food, fuel, parts, repairs and some retail therapy. So imagine how much an entire touring group injects into a local economy and the flow-on to other local businesses and the community,” said Peter.

We have been working closely with Stuart Woodbury and Peter Thoeming from The Australian Motorcyclist Magazine. They got right behind the guide offering content advice and photos with Peter “The Bear” writing the intro to the Guide.

The Australian Motorcyclist Magazine have also distributed 4,000 guides in an upcoming issue to hit the stands on 17 December.

Ballina Base guides will also be delivered to local motorcycle clubs and retailers, and throughout the Visitor Information Centre network in NSW and interstate.

Collect your copy from the Ballina Visitor Information Centre at 6 River Street or download from discoverballina.com

A brief statistical analysis of the Australian motorcycle industry:

- ✔ Contributes \$3.6 billion to the national economy.
- ✔ 200,000 new and used sales each year.
- ✔ Directly employs 15,000 people.
- ✔ 800,000 licence holders.
- ✔ 678,000 registered motorcycles.

Source: Australian Road Rider

Killen Falls viewing platform and boardwalk

Killen Falls near Tintenbar is one of the most picturesque places in the Ballina Shire.

Council recently completed a project to improve public access to the Killen Falls Public Reserve. We have installed a waterfall viewing platform and a short boardwalk which crosses a wet gully on the 280m walking track. The viewing platform is set spectacularly at the top of the cliff overlooking Killen Falls. The area is now a lot safer for visitors who no longer need to walk on the slippery cliff edge.



2015 Australian reputation ranking: **Ballina hotels among the state's best**

Ballina is home to some of the country's top hotels, according to the latest Trivago. Based on more than 200 million traveller ratings, trivago.com.au presents its 2015 Australian Reputation Ranking for the country's favourite destinations and hotels.

Ballina ranks 11th in New South Wales for online hotel reputation.

Hotels in Ballina are rated an average of 84.30, placing it in the New South Wales top 30 list of destinations in 11th place.

Visit trivago.com to view the 2015 New South Wales Reputation Ranking.



Daylight saving is here and the long sunny afternoons are perfect for a walk on the beach.

If you are an early riser take in the sunrise on one of the Shire's beautiful coastal walks.



join women in friendship

Women of all ages, from different backgrounds and with different life experiences are warmly welcome to join the CWA Ballina branch.

Every Wednesday we have something on.

Come along for a chat and cuppa from 9am until noon. Bring your handicraft, even if you are new to knitting and crocheting we can show you how.

Every second week we learn the craft of beautiful parchment card making.

From 12noon we play Mahjong. Don't worry if you have never played before, we show you the skills and strategy of this traditional Chinese game.

We also hold fundraising events with proceeds going to local charities, and each year we award a \$1000 scholarship to a local Year 12 student pursuing tertiary education.

For further information contact: Lyn Davidson 6686 4849 or Noelene Gillies on 6686 3756.

CWA Hall,
Captain Cook Park,
River Street, Ballina
(next to the Ballina RSL Club).



SWIM BETWEEN THE FLAGS 2015 – 2016

The summer swimming and surfing season is here and beaches in the Ballina Shire are again being patrolled by contracted surf lifesavers and volunteers.

Please swim between the flags. Patrols normally operate from 9am to 5pm.

BEACH	PATROLS START	PATROLS FINISH	DETAILS
Lennox Head Beach	19/12/2015 09/04/2016	26/01/2016 25/04/2016	9am – 5pm 2 Lifeguards Mon-Fri Volunteers on weekends and public holidays
Sharpes Beach	19/12/2015 09/04/2016	26/01/2016 25/04/2016	9am - 5pm 2 Lifeguards 7 days a week
Shelly Beach	19/12/2015 09/04/2016	26/01/2016 25/04/2016	9am - 5pm 2 Lifeguards 7 days a week
Lighthouse Beach	21/12/2015 11/04/2016	22/01/2016 22/04/2016	9am - 5pm 2 Lifeguards Mon-Fri Volunteers on weekends and public holidays



Christmas hampers

Your special someone deserves a unique local gift hamper this Christmas.

The Ballina Visitor Information Centre has a huge range of local produce to make your very own Christmas hamper.

Choose from indulgent local gifts, natural cosmetics, handmade crafts, jewellery and scrumptious gourmet produce including Ballina Honey, Duck Creek or Summerland House Farm Macadamia Nuts, Hightrees Estate Coffee, Koala Tea, Brookfarm Museli, Wallaby Bites, and Rainforest Foods Jam.

Gift hampers can also be made to order to the value of your choice starting from \$25 per hamper.

Drop in to the Ballina Visitor Information Centre at 6 River Street or phone 1800 777 666.





Image courtesy: Paul Slattery

LATEST NEWS FROM *ballina byron gateway airport*



REGIONAL TOURISM INFRASTRUCTURE FUND

Ballina Byron Gateway Airport has applied for funding through the NSW State Government's Regional Tourism Infrastructure Fund for the Terminal Precinct Expansion Project (TPEP).

The proposed TPEP is an \$8m upgrade to the Ballina Byron Gateway Airport.

It involves three main projects:

1. Alterations and additions to the existing terminal building
2. An asphalt overlay to the existing RPT (regular public transport) apron (the aircraft parking area)
3. A widening and strengthening asphalt overlay to the main RPT taxiway (taxiway Alpha).

The terminal building works is estimated to cost \$5.5m and includes the following outcomes:

1. An increase in the size of the existing departure lounge and café (an increase of 200%)
2. A doubling of the number of chairs in the departure lounge
3. A new café, sports bar and three new retail areas
4. A relocation of the passenger set-down and pick-up area, bus parking area, taxi rank and limousine bays
5. A number of undercover walkways to connect the terminal building with the car park, set-down area and bus parking area.

We should know the outcome of the grant application by mid December.

A new bird flies into Ballina

The Ballina Byron Gateway Airport is delighted to announce that FlyPelican will commence flights between Newcastle Airport and Ballina Byron Gateway Airport on Tuesday 8 December 2015.

FlyPelican is a Newcastle based independent regional airline that operates a fleet of 19 seat, pressurised British Aerospace Jetstream 32 aircraft and they are excited to be adding another route to its network.

The FlyPelican flights will connect the Northern Rivers to the Newcastle region and provide the two regional communities with a Ballina to Newcastle return air service.

The Ballina Byron Gateway Airport has been working with FlyPelican for a number of months in getting the business case right for the airline. The Chief Executive Officer of FlyPelican, Paul Graham said "The Newcastle

to Ballina route is very well suited to our Jetstream 32 aircraft. Our return service will fly 19 passengers in about one hour and 20 minutes from Newcastle to Ballina. Discussions with Ballina Shire Council have been very positive and Ballina Byron Gateway Airport has been performing very well with major traffic and passenger growth over the past few years".

Flights for the FlyPelican Newcastle to Ballina service can be purchased from the FlyPelican website flypelican.com.au and will start from \$99 one way inclusive of taxes.

The flight schedules are detailed below.

Newcastle / Ballina Summer Schedule from 8 December 2015 (Monday to Saturday):

Departs Newcastle	0720
Arrives Ballina	0840
Departs Ballina	0910
Arrives Newcastle	1030

The Airport celebrates passenger growth

Ballina Byron Gateway Airport has achieved its highest ever passenger numbers for the year ended October 2015, recording 449,792 total passengers. This is a substantial increase of 10% on the previous year and confirms the ongoing growth in demand for the region.

In comparison, from the Bureau of Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Economics airport traffic data, the Australian domestic and regional aviation market recorded a decline of -0.5% for the year. Thus Ballina Byron Gateway Airport is performing well above the national average for domestic airport growth.

Departures

Departs	Airline	Destination	Arrives
06:30	REX	SYDNEY	08:20
09:10	FLYPELICAN	NEWCASTLE	10:30
09:15	JETSTAR	SYDNEY	10:40
11:45	JETSTAR	SYDNEY	13:10
12:50	JETSTAR	MELBOURNE	15:00
15:55	VIRGIN	SYDNEY	17:20
16:45	JETSTAR	SYDNEY	18:10

Now up to 58 flights per week.

Ballina Byron Gateway Airport offers up to 7 flights a day with up to 58 flights per week travelling to Sydney, Newcastle and Melbourne. There are daily services to Sydney plus regular direct flights to Melbourne and Newcastle travelling on Jetstar, Virgin, Rex and new airline partner, FlyPelican. So whether your trip is for fun or for business, make Ballina Byron Gateway Airport your first choice and support your local airport.

* the above times are indicative of a standard flight schedule and subject to change, details should be confirmed with the airline partner. FlyPelican commences services early December 2015.



buy local and invest in the place we call home

Christmas is on its way and one of the best presents you can give your community is to do your Christmas shopping in our local shops.

Ballina Shire has a great range of stores and speciality shops offering loads of gift ideas, quirky treats and personalised customer service.

Make a day of it starting with breakfast in Alstonville, lunch in Ballina and a glass of wine in Lennox in the afternoon. Fill the rest of the day browsing all of the shops in each town.

Each purchase you make helps keep someone employed and is an investment in the place we are lucky enough to call home.

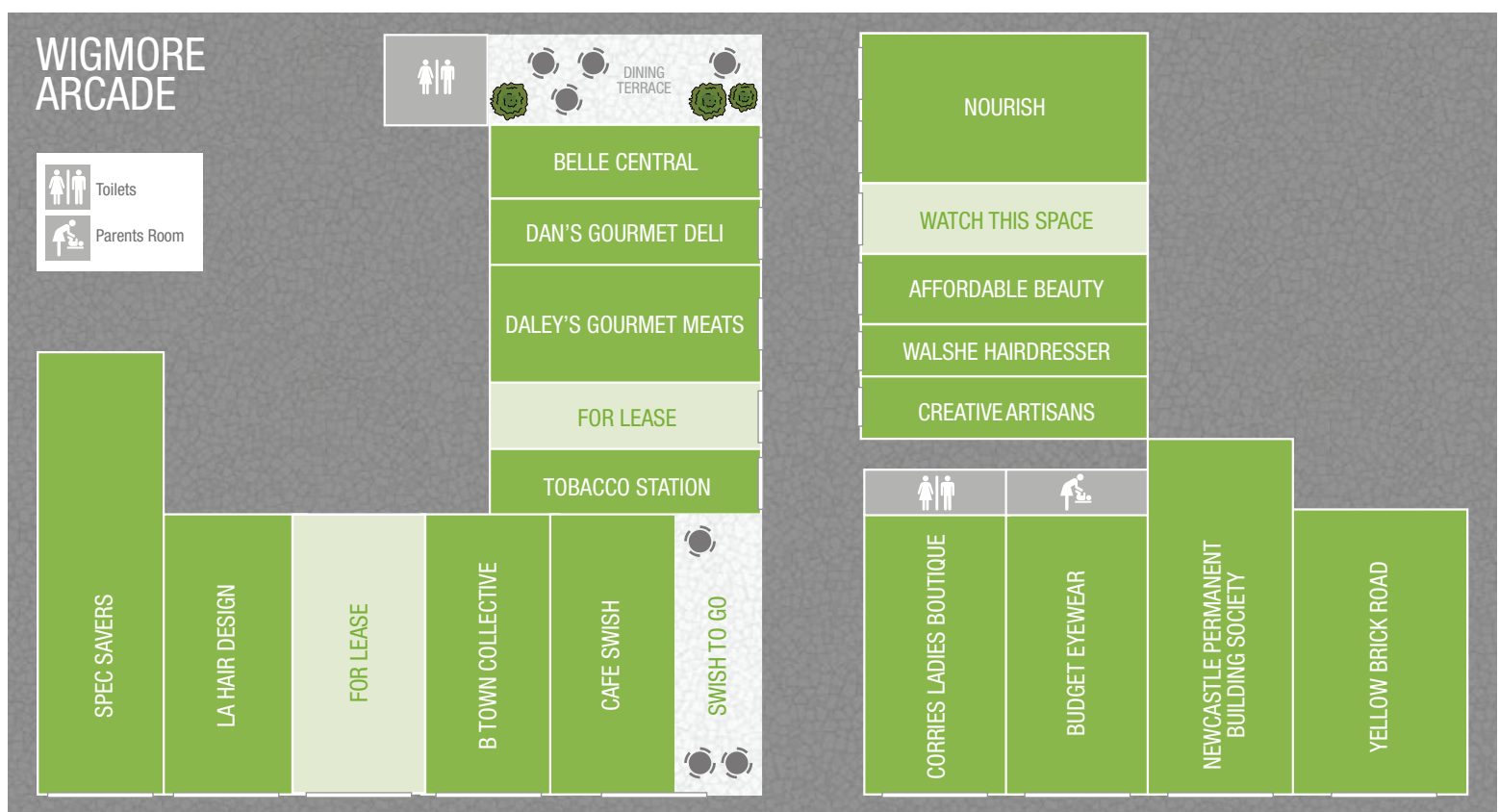


WIGMORE ARCADE READY FOR CHRISTMAS TRADING

There is loads of Christmas spirit in the town centre, and the Wigmore is also gearing up for the festive season decked out in Christmas garland.

The existing Wigmore Arcade traders are welcoming new tenants Belle Central, Nourish and Swish to Go just in time for Christmas cheer.

The Wigmore is nearing capacity, with only a couple of shops available for lease. If you are interested in leasing space contact Council's Commercial Services on telephone 6686 1239.





ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY

Council recognises that encouraging economic development is important to the wellbeing of our community. To support this Council is preparing an economic development strategy. We will be engaging with local businesses in early 2016 to ensure our strategy takes into account their desires and ideas for a prosperous Ballina Shire.

The strategy will:

- Clarify Council's role and commitment to economic development.
- Provide a focus for Council's activities and programs that contribute to the Shire's economic development.
- Communicate the Shire's strengths and opportunities to attract business and investment.
- Engage with business as a basis for building better relationships.
- Streamline council processes which impact on business activity.

Identify new initiatives such as the removal of excessive regulation, encouraging business networking, and vibrant business precincts.

Do I need approval for my building project?

Council staff are often asked whether approval is needed to construct a fence, build a retaining wall, deck, shade sail or install a rainwater tank.

Many minor structures are regarded as "exempt development" under the NSW Government's Exempt and Complying Development Code. This means that in certain circumstances no approval from Council is needed providing the development fully satisfies the requirements of the Code.

To check if your proposal is exempt development, the NSW Government Department of Planning and Environment has created an interactive website, designed to help property owners with enquiries.

Have a look at the website and follow the prompts. Hopefully it will assist you with any minor projects in the pipeline.

planningportal.nsw.gov.au/

For enquiries, contact Council's Building Services Section on telephone 02 6686 1415.

around the business chambers

BALLINA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

The Voice for Local Business and Industry

Ballina Chamber of Commerce is wrapping another massive year. Membership has grown by 62% and is now sitting at 330 members throughout the Ballina Coast & Hinterland.

Much of the membership growth can be attributed to the hard work of our Membership Officer, **Leigh O'Malley** who brings great enthusiasm and a genuine love of people to the role, combined with the consistent events the Chamber delivers such as Business After Hours, hosted by a different Chamber member each month, and the bi-monthly Breakfast Before Business.

Thank you to our active voluntary Board for their hard work throughout 2015:

Chairman – Ray Karam (Nourish all of You) brings a retail perspective and represents us on the Port of Ballina Taskforce.

Deputy Chair – Narelle Besseling (Ballina Concrete Pumping) brings an understanding of Trade & Construction and is our representative on the Northern Rivers Regional Advisory Board and Richmond Area Command Crime Precinct Committee.

Treasurer - Marjo Proos (Crowe Horwath) provides sound financial advice and guidance.

Secretary - Craig Zerk undertakes significant work drafting submissions and communications to Council and local politicians on a wide variety of policy items.

Michael Young (McCartney Young Lawyers) provides legal services and is a representative on the Ballina A Ward Committee,

Cameron Bracken (Novaskill) brings an understanding of the employment market and training for small business.

Martin Corkery (Riversleigh Guesthouse) our crucial tourism representative, and recent appointment to the North Coast Destination Network.

Thank you also to Irene and Natalie from **Copy That @ Profsec** for providing secretarial and bookkeeping services; we simply couldn't operate without them.

The major events kicked off in March with the annual International Women's Day featuring a number of fantastic speakers and record attendance. The Chamber's second Home Sweet Home Expo at the Homemaker Centre in August attracted huge numbers enjoying the showcase of products, services and workshops. In September the Chamber hosted the largest Ballina Coast & Hinterland Business Awards since pre-GFC, with the Best New Business entries demonstrating the strength of the Ballina business community and recent influx of new operators.

The Chamber's end of year focus has been on the Ballina Prawn Festival; a celebration of the Ballina Coast & Hinterland lifestyle. We are proud to deliver this event and are striving to establish the Prawn Festival as a national iconic event that not only gives locals a sense of pride but also boosts tourism visitation.

Recently shark activity has been a focus and we look forward to working with other stakeholders to source funding for destination marketing to turn a bad news story into an opportunity to promote all the other awesome offerings we have.

Our efforts throughout the year are dedicated to all local businesses who work tirelessly, provide employment, risk financial security to expand business, battle constantly with compliance burdens, and underpin the local economy by keeping the money flowing. We would like to thank our members, volunteers and sponsors for supporting us as we strive to be the voice for business and industry in the Ballina Coast & Hinterland.



LENNOX HEAD CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Fall in love with Lennox Head

The Lennox Head Chamber of Commerce Management Committee is manned by volunteers and is elected yearly by the members at the Annual General Meeting (AGM). This year the AGM took place on the 21st October 2015 and the new committee hit the ground running to deliver Chamber benefits to the local businesses, community and visitors to our region. Welcome to the new committee members:

- Debbie Smith – *President*
- Aga Deblaise – *Vice President*
- Sue Brennan – *Treasurer*
- Brendan Bolton – *Secretary*
- John Peacock – *Committee*
- Aaron Matenga – *Committee*
- Christopher Nott – *Committee*
- Jason Shrieves – *Committee*
- Nathan Pollock – *Committee*

Having just staged a very successful Business Excellence Awards in August, the Lennox Chamber hosted the Lennox Head Carols by Candlelight last weekend. Thank you to the local businesses and organisations for supporting this long running event and to the local community for attending.

Plans are already underway for the 4th Annual Love Lennox Festival incorporating Jazz by the Sea to be held on the first Saturday of June 2016.

The Love Lennox Festival is exactly what it sounds like: our chance to showcase the unique beauty of our town and make you fall in love with it. The local cafes and restaurants put their best \$5 menu together for you to sample in Flavours of Lennox.

There is also a Dogs of Lennox dog show, buskers and musicians and an abundance of local market stalls to ensure you go home with a souvenir from the day.

Youngsters will also be entertained by Old McDonald Farm and the Spaghetti Circus.

Love Lennox Festival 2016 promises to be bigger and better; so save the date – Saturday, 4th June 2016.



Photos courtesy: CN2480 Photography

ALSTONVILLE WOLLONGBAR CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Alstonville celebrating 150 Years

2015 has been a successful year for the Alstonville Wollongbar Chamber of Commerce (AWCC) with membership growing more than 50%.

This year we celebrated 150 Years of Alstonville, with the AWCC helping to coordinate the Alstonville Family Festival in May. This was a wonderful community event for locals and visitors and highlighted the close knit community on the Plateau.

The 2015 Business Community Awards held in August was a great success with 100 guests representing local Plateau businesses.

September saw the Alstonville 150 Years Celebration Street Parade and Festival. Local businesses themed their shops and attire in one of the decades from the past 150 years. Everything from 80s Pop, 70s Disco, 60s Retro, 50s Grease, 20s Flappers and Gangsters, with the Commonwealth Bank taking out the people's choice award.

Photo of the Month via the AWCC Facebook page was popular. Submissions provided different aspects of life on the Plateau. A selection of photos can be viewed on the AWCC website alstonvillewollongbar.com.au

In October, the AWCC with funding from Ballina Shire Council replaced the Community Notice Board on Main Street. The notice board aims to keep locals and visitors informed of local community events.

We are currently getting into the Christmas spirit with local businesses vying for the hotly contested perpetual trophy in the Business Christmas Light up Competition.

Heading into 2016 we will launch the Member Benefit Card to encourage AWCC members to shop locally, and the Business After Hours and Business Breakfasts will kick off again in the first quarter of 2016. These events are a great way to network, welcome new businesses and discuss issues affecting the Plateau.

The AWCC wishes everyone a happy Christmas and prosperous 2016.





5 COOL THINGS YOU CAN DO TO WARM THE EARTH...

(OR NOT, IF YOU'D RATHER)

So, you've changed the lightglobes (-135kg CO² per year) but have so far managed to avoid that water-saving showerhead. You haven't done so great on the shorter showers either (collectively 155kg CO² per year). But then again, you recycle everything in sight (-1635kg CO² per year) and usually dry your clothes outside on the clothesline. You take your own bags (mostly) to the supermarket (-45 kg CO² per year), and put all your green waste in the green bin or your own compost (-280 kg CO² per year).

Collectively, that is 1940 kilograms of greenhouse gases you have saved right there. In 2010, Australian were emitting 24 tonnes per capita. So, that is not a bad saving to start with.



1. DRIVE THE BIGGEST CAR YOU CAN FIND (+2000KG), AND DRIVE LIKE A CRAZY PERSON (+1250KG)?

Or you could keep your own car serviced regularly (-90kg), 'upgrade' to the smallest practicable car for your needs (variable savings), and drive like a sensible person. You could also turn off the engine rather than idling (-110kg), replace your tyres regularly (-210kg) or take fewer short trips (-1045kg). Taking public transport obviously saves a lot of carbon, but that is a lot harder in regional areas than in the city. But you could walk, ride your bike or carpool. All of these save carbon, money and might even make you healthier.

Minimum saving – 1455kg.

2. EAT OUT – OFTEN AND MEATY?

Eating out is convenient and also expensive. Eating takeaways (+ 20kg), cheeseburgers (3kg PER CHEESEBURGER!), and eating lots of meat (1500kg per year for an average diet which includes meat). Buying your lunch every day will result in 30kg of paper and plastic waste, and 70kg of CO² per year.

Eating local food can save up to 2275kg of CO² per year, and buying products with less packaging (ie loose carrots, corncobs with the skin on) can save 1090kg per year.

Minimum savings (12 less cheeseburgers per year) – 36kg.

Eating less beef and lamb is the single biggest thing you can do to reduce your carbon emissions with regard to food.

But, just a point – make sure that whatever you do, you are still healthy. Being sick is pretty carbon intensive too – especially if you end up in hospital. The Victorian Government has begun looking into the carbon footprint of health care, and, although its not directly comparable to our local facilities – its still pretty interesting (<http://www.health.vic.gov.au/sustainability/carbon/footprint.html>).

3. FLY TO SOMEWHERE EXOTIC, OFTEN (TRIPS OVER 4 HOURS = +800KGS ONE WAY)

Or maybe save those trips up and do them less often, but for longer. Discover your local and regional places of interest. There are lots of great holiday places locally and within an easy drive.

Minimum saving for a trip to Bali (return) is 1600 kgs of carbon. Not bad. A trip to the Europe (using London as a gateway) is 16 tonnes. Yikes.

Minimum saving (say a trip to Fiji) – 400kg.



4. BUY A LOT OF STUFF.



It's a drain on your purse strings, and presents a good case for decluttering. If we buy consciously, quality items that we will use for a long time, and consider its manufacture location and materials, we are more likely to reduce our overall emissions due to purchasing our stuff.

Obviously we do need a certain amount of stuff. But how much really?

Minimum saving (not sure). Each t-shirt is about **10kg** of CO2 throughout its life. **7 kg** of this are generated before you even buy it. Washing in cold water and line drying really helps keep emissions associated with cleaning down, reducing them by almost half. (<http://www.ottogroup.com/en/medien/meldungen/otto-group-erforscht-pcf.php>).

As a society, we go through **11kg** of cotton per person, on average, each year. This is about **400kg** per year of CO2.

5. ...AND MAKE SURE IT'S WELL PACKAGED...



On average, every tonne of food comes with a quarter of a tonne of packaging. For plastic, every kilogram produced has a **1.54kg** carbon footprint.

Recycling works quite well in terms of saving emissions... recycling a glass bottle saves **0.5kg** of carbon compared to making a brand new one. And recycling a newspaper saves **100g** of carbon compared to making a new one. And recycling PET bottles saves almost half of the **30g** of carbon produced (for a **10g** bottle) so the savings are small for each individual bottle, but they really add up.

So, if you recycled your three times weekly newspaper (think the Advocate, plus the Northern Star and a weekend paper) (**300g** x 52 weeks = **15kg** per year) and a weekly bottle of wine, or beer (**400g** x 52 weeks = **10 400kg** per year) and one bottle of lemonade per week (**200g** per year).

That's an annual saving of over 10 tonnes per year.

And don't forget these are only the carbon savings, and there are other reasons you would probably like to recycle as well.

SO, WHAT IF YOU BUY A NEW TV?

Buying a new (LCD) television accounts for only 8% of its carbon footprint. 92% of its footprint is due to use. This is a good thing, as this is the part you have most control over it. Your new LCD TV will use about **215kg** of carbon per year to run in your home. Plasma TVs take more (almost **300kg** of carbon for a comparable size TV).

In fact, a lot of the carbon associated with our love of TV, is actually in the cost of making the shows you watch – about **8.2 tonnes** of carbon per hour (BBC, 2008)! This means The Block, Masterchef, House Rules and the like are even more disposable than we thought...at least you can replay drama and comedy at least once.

However, for some shows, considering carbon in their production has begun. Season 7 of '24' went carbon neutral. There is an analysis of how they did this here (<http://impact.21cf.com/case-studies/24-reduces-its-season-7-carbon.html>). Pretty impressive stuff – you can feel carbon comfortable watching this!

A few of the references used in this article...

<http://calculator.carbonfootprint.com/calculator.aspx?tab=3>

<http://shrinkthatfootprint.com/food-carbon-footprint-diet>

<http://www.carbonvisuals.com/projects/one-hours-tv-production-for-bbc>

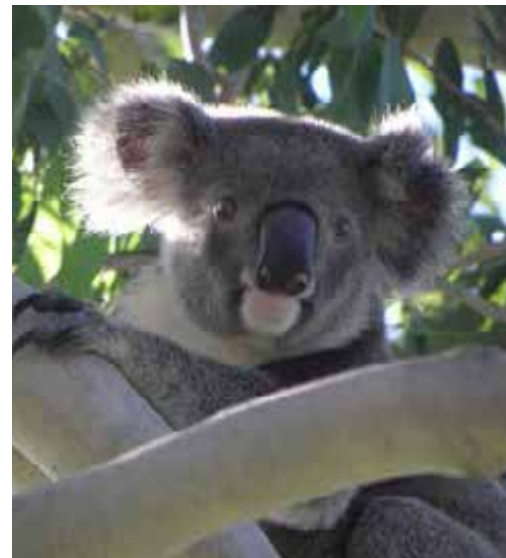
<http://www.ig.com/global/sustainability/environment/greener-products/products-application>

http://www.carboncalculator.co.uk/reductions_waste.php

<http://pacinst.org/publication/bottled-water-and-energy-a-fact-sheet/>

endangered species profile

Koalas of Bagotville



Attentive readers of Community Connect and the local Ballina Shire Advocate will have noticed an increasing focus on koalas over the past two years. This is because research to underpin the recently exhibited Ballina Shire Koala Plan of Management has found that koalas living in the southern part of Ballina Shire represent a nationally significant population.

Koalas are listed as 'Vulnerable' under both NSW and Commonwealth legislation. Their populations can be impacted by loss of habitat, motor vehicle strike, dog attack and disease. Losing connectivity of habitat can also be a long-term issue for koalas as they are unable to refresh their gene pool and become inbred, and therefore more susceptible to disease.

The photo above has been contributed by a local Bagotville resident who follows her local koala population very closely. So closely that she has given names to many of her neighbours (koala neighbours!). The local koalas make up a nationally significant population.

If you see a native animal, insect or plant you can record it on the Atlas of Living Australia at www.ala.org.au

The Atlas of Living Australia provides useful information for community groups, and Council, when applying for grants, and for planners when looking at the connectivity between habitat and as a general interest tool for residents.

Image courtesy: Maria Matthes





What's in the pipeline?

The Ballina Shire recycled water scheme uses water generated from the Ballina and Lennox Head Water Treatment Plants. Both of these plants have been upgraded to recycled water plants and supply recycled water to sports fields, golf courses and the race track. In the near future they will also supply recycled water to homes and businesses through dual reticulation. Council expects to receive approval from the NSW Government to supply Lennox Head residents with recycled water in the second quarter of 2016. Following that, a date will be set for the Ballina Recycled Water Scheme.

Did you know?

The Lennox Head Waste Water Treatment Plant collects and treats sewage from a mix of 11,000 residential homes and a small number of commercial premises. The volume collected varies depending on the weather but is usually 4 million litres a day. Recycled water is then generated with the new plant capable of producing up to 4.5 million litres a day. The scheme incorporates the original Lennox Head wastewater treatment plant with new plant components including ultrafiltration technology, ultra violet

disinfection and chlorine disinfection to make the water safe.

Although the Ballina and Lennox Head recycled water schemes are yet to provide water to homes, recycled water has been used for outdoor watering and irrigation for a number of years including the Skennars Head Playing fields and the Ballina Golf Course.

Community tours

Early next year community groups will be able to undertake tours of the treatment plants and witness first-hand wastewater being transformed to recycled water.

Tour details will be provided in the local media in early 2016.

Ultra-Violet is not all bad...

With 2.4 million Australians getting sunburnt over a summer weekend, we spend a massive \$71 million per year avoiding sunburn and the skin cancers caused by Ultra Violet light (source – Cancer Council). It's no wonder UV often gets a bad rap.

But did you know the same UV light is used to protect the community when treating water to ensure we have a safe water supply.



Pipe Renewal =
Reduced Water
Loss = \$ savings

One of the major sources of water loss in the Ballina Shire has been fixed.

The water main on Smith Drive at West Ballina was a 4.5km, 80-year-old pipeline that contributed to almost 16% of the water loss in the Ballina Shire. This equated to an estimated \$1 million in lost water over ten years, not including the cost of maintenance and repairs.

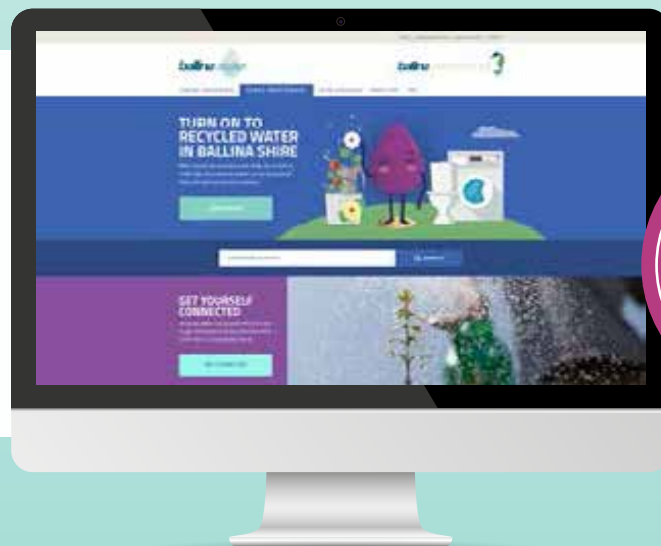
The new Smith Drive water main cost \$1.1 million but this is expected to be recouped in around six years.

www.ballinawater.com.au

Keep an eye out for the new water information and education website to be launched in December 2015.

The new site will have all the information you need to know about recycled water, Ballina's Urban Water Cycle, how to get connected and clearing up water terminology.

www.ballinawater.com.au



new
website
launched
dec

Take a look at *what clogs the pipes....*



Image courtesy: Clarence Valley Council

Wet wipes are clogging up our waste water systems. Although they will flush down toilets, they take months to break down.

Even products labelled 'flushable' should not be flushed as they do not disintegrate like toilet paper. Toilet paper breaks down in minutes but other products remain intact even after months submerged in water.

Other items that should not be flushed but are often found in our waste water system include nappy wipes, cleansing

wipes, nappies, colostomy bags, cotton wool, make-up pads, cotton buds, dental floss, sanitary items, condoms and even plastic toys. These can cause havoc with our waste water system. All these items should be put in the general waste (red lid) bin.

These products block pipes and get caught in the equipment at our waste water treatment plants and pump stations that service your home and those of your neighbours. These breakdowns also add to Council's operating costs.

Worse still, if pipes get clogged on your property you could be faced with a costly plumber's bill.

The message is clear to keep the pipes clean only flush pee, poo and paper down the toilet!

Water Refill Stations in recreation areas

For a cleaner & healthier future

Public refill stations are a better alternative to bottled water for the community, both environmentally and financially.



Council has just installed four water refill stations at the following locations:

1. FAWCETT WHARF, MISSINGHAM PARK
2. BALLINA SKATE PARK
3. SHAW'S BAY CYCLE WAY
4. SHELLY BEACH CARPARK

The refill stations also cater for pets, with refillable water dishes for your canine companion.

The refill stations have been funded by a \$12,960 grant from NSW EPA under the Better Waste Recycling Fund program.



Tap water costs about \$0.002 per litre, while pre-bottled water can cost as much as \$5.00 or more per litre depending on the brand... So fill up at a water refill station – you'll save a bucket load.

EVERYDAY WATER SAVING MEASURES

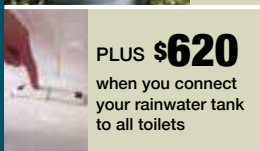
Everyday Water Saving Measures are currently active for all areas supplied by Rous Water. The Bureau of Metrology is predicting a strong El Niño event is likely to persist until early 2016. During El Niño events the region is likely to experience below-average rainfall and increased temperatures. Rous Water encourages all residents to adopt these **Everyday Water Saving Measures** to ensure sustainable water usage throughout the region. To find out if you are in a Rous Water supply area visit www.rouswater.nsw.gov.au.

Rebates from Rous Water

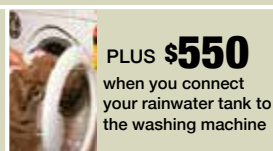
Rous Water offers rebates to residents for installing a rainwater tank. Rainwater tanks are easy to use and are available in styles to suit most homes.



\$1000* to purchase and install a rainwater tank



PLUS \$620 when you connect your rainwater tank to all toilets



PLUS \$550 when you connect your rainwater tank to the washing machine

* Terms and conditions apply

For more information contact Rous Water
T: 02 6623 3800 | E: water@rouswater.nsw.gov.au | W: www.rouswater.nsw.gov.au

Saving water around your home

OUTDOOR WATERING

Outdoor watering and water use is permitted between 6 am and 10 am and between 3 pm and 10 pm. This applies to the use of all types of sprinklers, watering systems, hand-held hoses, watering cans and buckets, topping up swimming pools and outdoor spas.

CLEANING VEHICLES AND BOATS

Where possible, vehicles and boats should be washed on the lawn or where the water will run off onto the lawn or garden. Hoses should be fitted with an on/off nozzle. Trigger nozzles are preferred.

DRIVEWAYS, PATHS AND PAVED AREAS

These should be swept and only hosed when necessary such as a fire or health hazard. High pressure water cleaners using 10mL/min or less are recommended.



waste watch



tips for christmas waste



CHRISTMAS TREE

Buy a good quality artificial tree so it will last many years, or be mindful of the best ways to deal with a live tree once Christmas is over. Live trees can be cut into small pieces and put in a green organics (green lid) bin.



GIFT GIVING

Consider the environmental impact of presents you give. Buy local or think about giving a gift such as a massage or tickets to an event.



WRAPPING

Paper wrapping, cards and boxes can go in the recycling bin, or stored to reuse later. For that personal touch use children's artwork.



DISPOSING OF GLASS

Not all glass can go in the recycling bin, glass bottles and jars can be recycled, but crockery, ovenproof glass or drinking glasses needed to go in a regular rubbish bin. Wrap any broken glass in newspaper, before it is put into a bin to minimise the risk of cuts.



DON'T COME THE RAW PRAWN

Purchase only what you need. Freeze any leftovers and put prawn-heads in the freezer too until bin collection day. They go in the organics (green lid) bin.

no strings attached

The Materials Recycling Facility (MRF) operated by Lismore City Council has reporting that a lot of electrical cables are entering the recycling stream.

Remember the Recycling Rule : No Strings Attached...no string, rope or electrical cable in your yellow recycling bin...it must go in your waste (red lid) bin.

The MRF is a great example of local Council's working together to use facilities rather than duplicating resources.



NEW REVOLVE SHOP ON TRACK TO OPEN IN EARLY 2016

The slab is down and the shed is being erected for the new Revolve Shop at the Ballina Waste Management Centre.

The new shop will be operated by On Track Community Programs which will employ staff from disadvantaged and disabled groups.

After the shed is constructed On Track will set about stocking the shed with reusable items ready for the official launch in early February.

put your bins out early!

All areas with a kerbside bin collection on Christmas Day will be serviced as normal. Ensure bins are out by 5am as the truck drivers start earlier on Christmas Day.

COMMUNITY RECYCLING CENTRE

The disposal of paints, chemicals and problem waste products can be a costly and time-consuming as these products cannot be put into household wheelie bins. Ballina Shire Council has been working on a permanent solution to this problem with a new Community Recycling Centre currently being constructed at the Ballina Waste Management Centre.

A \$109,000 grant from the NSW Government's Waste Less Recycle More initiative will fund the construction of the drop-off centre which will accept waste such as paint, oils, batteries, gas cylinders, smoke detectors, fluorescent lights and eWaste.

This will be a free service for Ballina Shire residents and it is expected to be operational in early 2016.

New Waste Disposal Satchels

Recycling satchels are now available for residents to dispose of old phone batteries, CDs and DVDs and x-rays.

These items are bundled into the satchels and then put in the recycling (yellow lid) bin.

Satchels are available from Council's service centres such as the Libraries, Waste Management Centre, Customer Service Centre and Community Centres.



50% OFF Disposal Fees
ASBESTOS
 Household Asbestos Disposal Scheme
 EXTENDED

For more information visit www.ballinawaste.org.au
 Phone: Ballina Shire Council 02 6686 4444

NSW EPA

HOUSEHOLDERS' ASBESTOS DISPOSAL SCHEME HAS BEEN EXTENDED

During 2014/15 Council participated in the NSW Environment Protection Authority's trial of the Householder Asbestos Disposal Scheme (HADS). This was a free service which covered the disposal costs for household asbestos as a way of promoting the safe management and disposal of the hazardous material.

The trial was very successful with 17 households in the Ballina Shire correctly disposing 2.5 tonnes of asbestos to landfill.

Council will continue the scheme and cover the disposal costs for household asbestos waste delivered to the Lismore Waste Facility. To participate in the Household Asbestos Disposal Scheme, residents must purchase a \$30 asbestos kit.

Collect your Asbestos Kit from the Waste Management Centre Southern Cross Drive, Ballina. Ph: 6686 1287



Let's keep plastic out of landfill

Thanks to the new Lismore MRF, we can now recycle plastic bags and soft plastics, reducing the amount of plastic going to landfill. This type of waste is now being recycled to be turned into new plastic products.

This is a huge step for recycling. However, its success relies on everyone doing the right thing.

So... hang up a plastic bag in your kitchen, somewhere easy to reach. Fill it with all your other plastic bags and any clean, soft plastics.

This includes a huge range of stuff you probably use on a day-to-day basis including:

- Frozen food packaging.
- Toilet paper, paper towel and nappy packaging.
- Salad, fruit and veggie bags.
- Plastic wrappers.
- Cling wrap and bubble wrap.
- Pasta and rice packets.

Once your plastic bag is full, tie it up and place it in your recycling (yellow lid) bin.

No mess, no fuss.

It's an easy change and it will make a huge difference to the environment. Keep in mind that ALL hard plastics should be thrown in the recycling (yellow lid) bin loose – these should NOT be placed in plastic bags.

U U

"Our family put bread tags in a plastic container. When it's full we put the whole container in the recycling (yellow lid) bin"

Lister family, West Ballina

what's your reduce, reuse, recycling tip?

Send your reduce, reuse, recycling tip to comms@ballina.nsw.gov.au



The Waste Management Centre will be closed:
 Friday 25 December,
 Saturday 26 December
 Monday 28 December 2015
 and Friday 01 January 2016.
(kerbside waste collection services will not change).



Protect yourself against mosquito bites

Mosquitoes spread diseases such as Ross River Fever, so it's important to take care to protect yourself and your family when mosquitoes are most active.

Cover up with loose fitting clothing, shoes and use an insect repellent. You can also reduce mosquito breeding areas by cleaning up your yard, emptying containers that hold water and flushing out pot plant bases.

Make sure gutters are free of leaves and drain freely and that openings to septic tanks and water tanks are covered. Fly screens on windows, doors and chimneys are encouraged.

Ballina Shire Council is actively involved in mosquito monitoring during the warmer months and data is given to NSW Health to help manage mosquito-borne risk. Council is also working with developers to ensure new residential areas are designed to minimise the exposure of residents to mosquitoes.

For further information contact Council's Public and Environmental Health Section on telephone 6686 1210 or visit ballina.nsw.gov.au/mosquitoes



buying a 4WD permit
to access Seven Mile Beach has just been made easier.

coming soon

An automated kiosk is situated opposite the Lennox Head Surf Club approaching Camp Drewe Road.

1 day permit	\$10.00
30 day permit	\$30.00
6 month permit	\$45.00
Annual permit	\$75.00

Payment by Card Only.

For more information visit ballina.nsw.gov.au or telephone 6686 4444





SHARE THE PATH

Shared paths are for pedestrians and bicycle riders to use. In order to avoid a collision here are a few rules for shared paths.

When riding on a shared path, cyclists should:

- Give way to pedestrians and other wheeled recreation devices.
- Keep to the left.
- Ring your bell when approaching other path users.
- Be careful around children, dogs and older people as they are sometimes unpredictable.
- Travel at a speed that is safe for other riders and pedestrians.
- Move off the path if you are stopped.
- Dismount on footpaths. If you see the dismount sign, you must get off your bike and walk. Penalties apply if you break the rule. Check the Ballina cycleways map on the Council website.

When using a shared path walkers, joggers, skateboarders and scooters should:

- Keep to the left and travel in a predictable manner.
- Watch out for cyclists, especially going around corners. Listen for the sound of a bell and avoid moving into the path of a bike.
- Move off the path if you are stopped.
- Supervise young children at all times.
- Keep animals on short leads and under control.



holiday parking

During the Christmas holidays parking will be in great demand in our town centres.

Please check parking restrictions to avoid receiving a Penalty Infringement Notice (PIN).



Lake Ainsworth is a **Dog Free Zone**

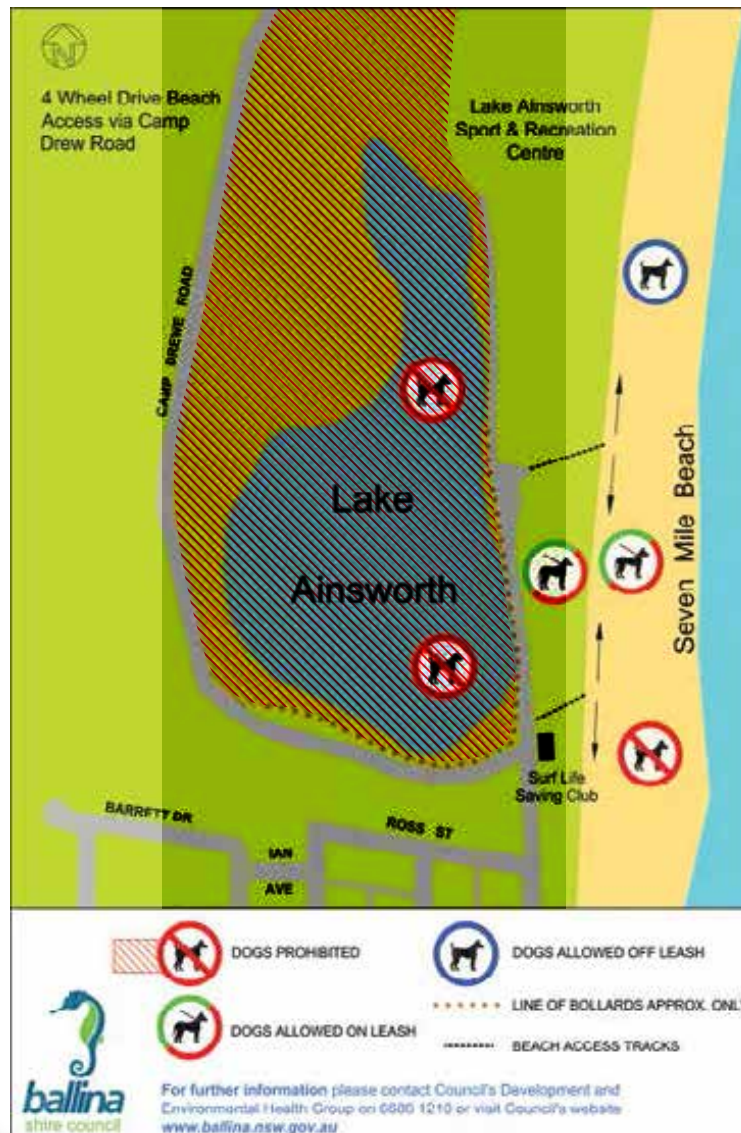
Lake Ainsworth is an important recreational area for locals and visitors and is situated in a sensitive ecological location. For this reason, dogs are banned from swimming in the Lake. Council has recently received complaints regarding the number of dogs swimming in the Lake.

To respond to these community concerns, Rangers will be increasing patrols in and around the Lake Ainsworth area. If a dog is found to be on the Lake side of the bollards, the owner or person in charge of the dog may be issued a \$330 penalty infringement notice.

Council Rangers have recently hosted information sessions at the Lake to encourage awareness on the regulations in the area. Council and the Rangers would like everyone visiting the Lake to enjoy its natural beauty, so please remember to do the right thing. Please refer to the adjacent map on where dogs are banned in the Lake Ainsworth vicinity.

There are plenty of Off-Leash dog exercise areas:

- Bicentennial Gardens (Northern Area of the Reserve), Ballina
- Compton Drive, East Ballina
- Gap Road, Alstonville
- Seven Mile Beach, North of Lake Ainsworth, Lennox Head (Old 4WD Access)
- Ballina Heights Estate (Eastern Reserve Area), Ballina Heights
- Headlands Drive Drainage Reserve, Skennars Head
- The Spit, Ballina.



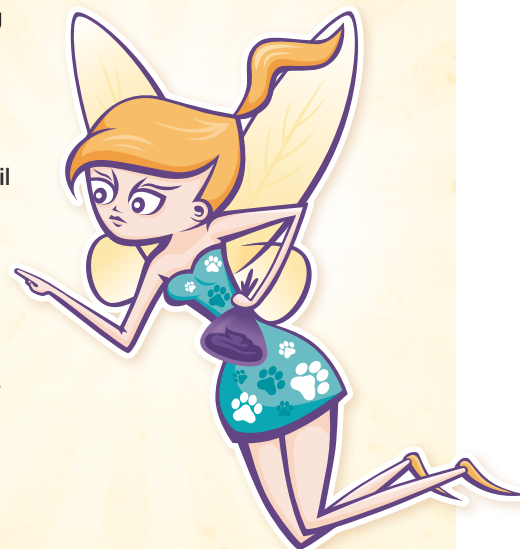
random dog checks
 Council Rangers will be increasing patrols particularly around beaches this summer. Random checks will also be done to make sure dogs are registered and microchipped.



Pippa the Dog Poo Fairy

Pippa has been seeing some bad behaviour recently – particularly dog owners using The Spit in Ballina. Pippa has reported to Council that some owners are not picking up after their dogs. This is unpleasant for other beach users.

There's no such thing as the Dog Poo Fairy! Bag it and bin it for a cleaner, healthier Ballina Shire.





Council services over Christmas / New Year period 2015/2016

LOCATION	CLOSING	REOPENING
Customer Service Centre	3.00pm Thursday 24 December	8.15am Monday 4 January 2016
Waste Management Centre	Friday 25 December Saturday 26 December Monday 28 December Friday 1 January 2016.	Open Sunday 27 December and from Tuesday 29 December Kerbside waste collection remains unchanged. Please have bins at kerbside by 5am on normal collection days, as start and finish times may vary.
Northern Rivers Community Gallery	From 2.30pm Thursday 24 December	10am Wednesday 6 January 2016
Visitor Information Centre	Christmas Day only	9am Saturday 26 December 2016
Ballina Library, Lennox Head Library & Alstonville Library	From 3.00pm Wednesday 24 December	9.30am Friday 2 January 2016
Alstonville Swimming Pool	Christmas Day only	6am – 6pm Mon–Fri, 8am – 6pm weekends 10am – 6pm public holidays (Boxing Day and New Years Day)
Ballina Pool and Waterslide	Christmas Day only	Waterslide every day 10 am to 4 pm Pool open 9am to 5pm (Boxing Day to New Year's Day) from 2 January Pool operating hours will be: 6 am – 6 pm Monday – Friday, 8 am – 6 pm Saturday 9 am – 6 pm Sunday
Burns Point Ferry	12noon Thursday 25 December	5.30am Friday 26 December 2015
Community Spaces Alstonville Leisure & Entertainment Centre Ballina Surf Club – Jingi Wahla Rooms Lennox Head Cultural & Community Centre Kentwell Community Centre Richmond Room	Administration Office at the Lennox Community Centre will close from 3pm Thursday 24 December	8.30am Monday 4 January 2016 The Community Centres may be hired on public holidays by prior arrangement with Council staff.
After hours emergency number 6626 6954	Emergency calls concerning water, sewerage, roads, stormwater and health matters.	

Don't dispose of me yet

Use this issue of Community Connect to wrap kitchen waste and dispose in the green organics bin.

contacting your councillors

Councillors are here to represent your views. Councillors are elected in Wards, however each Councillor represents the entire community and can be contacted on any matter.

You can contact Councillors in person, by phone or email.

A Ward



Susan Meehan
phone 0431 685 666
smeehan@ballina.nsw.gov.au

B Ward



Sharon Cadwallader
phone 0413 091 440
crsharonc@nor.com.au

C Ward



Paul Worth
phone 0428 280 082
pworth@ballina.nsw.gov.au



Robyn Hordern
Deputy Mayor
phone 0410 562 758
robynh@ballina.nsw.gov.au



Jeff Johnson
phone 0438 677 202
jeffjohnson@ballina.nsw.gov.au



Keith Johnson
phone 0407 435 573
kjohnson@ballina.nsw.gov.au

Mayor



David Wright – Mayor
phone 0415 965 403
davidwright@ballina.nsw.gov.au



Ken Johnston
phone 0437 601 715
kenj@ballina.nsw.gov.au



Keith Williams
phone 0418 504 644
keithw@ballina.nsw.gov.au



Ben Smith
phone 0415 482 412
bens@ballina.nsw.gov.au



COUNCIL CONTACT INFORMATION

Ph: 02 6686 4444
Fax: 02 6686 7035
Email: council@ballina.nsw.gov.au
Web: ballina.nsw.gov.au
Street Address:
40 Cherry Street, Ballina
Postal Address:
PO Box 450, Ballina 2478
Office Hours:
8.15am to 4.30pm Mon-Fri
(excluding public holidays)

After hours contact:
02 6626 6954

Council's Community Access Points:
Meeting agendas and documents on exhibition can be viewed at Council's Customer Service Centre; Alstonville, Ballina and Lennox Head Libraries and Council's website ballina.nsw.gov.au