



communityconnect

the magazine of ballina shire council **june 2017 issue 27**

Waste Satchel



Wollongbar Sportfields



Pool on Time Lapse



Park Lane Theatre Ahn Do



ballina
shire council



Skullcandy Oz Grom Open

Lennox Head local Nyxie Ryan celebrates her second place win with friends at the 2016 Skullcandy Oz Grom Open in the 14 and under girls' division.

There's a host of great events in Ballina Shire over the coming months, see pages 8 and 9 for details.

Cover image: Yvette Avard

our *vision*

the ballina
shire is safe with a
connected community,
a healthy environment
and a thriving
economy.

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waste calendars

See inside this edition of Community Connect for your Waste Calendar for 2017/2018. If it is missing you can collect your copy from Council's Customer Service Centre, 40 Cherry Street, Ballina or telephone 02 6686 4444 to have one mailed to you.



from the mayor's desk

Councillors and I were privileged to host a morning tea recently to thank and acknowledge our volunteers who provide support for the airport, gallery, computer training, dune care and land care.

With over 30 groups assisting the local environment, there is an enormous amount of restoration being implemented with Council support. This help is through such things as plants, management plans, advice on species and materials.

It's great that so many people are prepared to give up their time to make our shire a better place. The tree planting on Pat Morton Headland, Lennox Head on Friday 2 June was another fabulous project where the local community, of all ages, have come together for the last 15 years to revegetate the area to reflect the landscape before white settlement. When completed, the plantings will really add to the Coastal Walk experience.

It was great to see young families and visitors out enjoying the Alstonville Family Fun Day and the Love Lennox Festival held recently. These events reflect the growing emphasis many people are putting into enhancing their connection with other people as well as supporting local businesses. It was so great to see people of all ages sharing in the entertainment and enjoying fabulous food from local food outlets.

I also thank the organisers that held 'Biggest Morning Teas', raising funds for the Cancer Council as well as all who supported the tasty treats along with the tea and coffee. There certainly were some fabulous spreads on offer with my highlight, the cream scones at Wardell.

We have a number of upcoming events in the shire that we should all support including the 2017 Ballina Food and Wine Festival run by the Rotary Club of Ballina on Richmond, and the six day 2017 Skullcandy Oz Grom Open held at Lennox Head.

The Ballina Food and Wine Festival showcases local foods and food outlets with tours of local farms, a gala dinner and the event itself at the Ballina Race Course on Sunday 2 July 2017.

The Skullcandy Oz Grom Open features some of the world's best junior surfers from ten different countries. The event will be broadcast live on **skullcandyozgromopen.com.au**. What a way to showcase Lennox Head and its surrounds. I thank the Department of Primary Industries (DPI) for their support of the event with smart drum lines and drone surveillance.

I will be participating in the annual Celebration Walk for NAIDOC Week on Monday 3 July which starts from the Ballina RSL Club at 10.30am. I look forward to seeing many community members there.

There's so many community events over the next few months, look at pages 8 and 9 for details.

Cr David Wright

our values

creative

accessible

respectful

energetic

safe

RICHMOND TWEED REGIONAL LIBRARY

Connect | Discover | Escape

Free Tech Savvy Seniors Technology training

During 2017, free technology training is available for seniors.

The hour long sessions will cover introduction to computers, email, iPads/tablets, and smartphones.

Library staff aim to provide participants with a better understanding of new technology so you can more easily search the web, email and have fun with your tech devices.

To book a session phone:

Ballina Library Ph: 6686 2831

Alstonville Library Ph: 6628 5527

Lennox Head Library Ph: 6687 6398

Computer use in the libraries is free for Ballina Shire residents. WiFi is free for everyone!



Have you downloaded the new Library App

Get your library's online resources on your mobile or tablet:

App features:

- Search the library catalogue (type or scan a book barcode)
- Download eBooks, eFilms, eMagazines
- Manage your account, review loans, renew loans, check reservations
- Check out latest events in your local library

Download the Richmond Tweed Regional Library app from your app store or visit rtrl.nsw.gov.au

THE MAGIC OF ARTS AND LITERACY ON SHOW IN THE GALLERY

The students of Empire Vale Public School have experienced outstanding literacy success through exploring artworks as a stimulus for creative thinking, writing and vocabulary building.

Teacher, Karen Rantissi has been working in partnership with the Northern Rivers Community Gallery (NRCG) to further develop the 1000 Words Arts and Literacy Program, allowing all primary and high schools in the Northern Rivers to get involved in this innovative program. The program offers students the opportunity to use artworks from the Gallery's 2017 exhibition program to inspire a wide range of writing activities, with written pieces being formally displayed within the gallery alongside the artwork that inspired it.

This May, members from the Ballina on Richmond Rotary Club joined students from Empire Vale Public School for an evening in the Gallery to take part in some of the fun literacy activities from the 1000 Words program. There was lots of laughter and amazing literacy works shared by both young and old. Everyone loved the experience saying:

"I liked sharing our stories with the Ballina on Richmond Rotary Club. It felt great when they laughed along with my funny stories and clapped at the end!" Kyle, Year 4.

"I loved listening to the Ballina on Richmond Rotary Club stories and poems. The poems about the artwork 'Theatre One' by Leanne Rose were so phenomenal." Molly, Year 6.

"The 1000 Words Art and Literacy Program has helped me become a confident writer. Using artworks helps inspire my wild imagination." Hien, Year 5.

The NRCG is seeking corporate sponsors to assist with funding the ongoing delivery of this wonderful program.

For more information on the program or sponsorship contact the Gallery Coordinator Ph: 02 6681 6167 or email lee.mathers@ballina.nsw.gov.au

Image Credits: Members of the Ballina on Richmond Rotary Club and students from Empire Vale Public School participating in the 1000 Words program in the Gallery.





connected community



park lane theatre

Park Lane Theatre at Lennox Community Centre continues to develop its reputation as one of Ballina Shire's premiere culture, arts, and entertainment destinations.

Damien Leith's tribute to Roy Orbison on 8 April received an overwhelmingly positive response to the show and the venue.

The Mental Health Matters forum hosted by NRL legend Dan Hunt in April left the audience moved, inspired, and educated on the importance of mental health for everyone in the community.

Look at our stellar program for the remainder of 2017.



upcoming events



**THE AUSTRALIAN BEE GEES SHOW
'40TH ANNIVERSARY OF SATURDAY NIGHT FEVER'**
WED 23 AUGUST



AHN DO – 'HAPPIEST REFUGEE'
FRI 4 SEPT (SOLD-OUT)
SECOND SHOW – THUR 31 AUG (SELLING FAST)



'WOMEN LIKE US' STARRING MANDY NOLAN & ELLEN BRIGGS
WED 23 AUGUST







RAW: NATURAL BORN ARTISTS
THUR 9 OCTOBER



current exhibitions

Exhibition Dates: 24 May – 25 June 2017

<p>The Topography of Virtual Worlds Steve Kelly</p> 	<p>The Topography of Virtual Worlds exhibition showcases a series of imagined worlds created using the artists own photographs combined with 3D modelling software.</p> <p>Image: Steve Kelly, <i>Stone Trees I</i></p>	<p>JUNE 2017</p>
<p>Indigenous Landscape Richard Tabaka</p> 	<p>Richard Tabaka invokes illusory worlds that disrupt the boundaries between the real form of the land and fragments of someone's creative imagination, a document and a fiction.</p> <p>Image: Richard Tabaka, <i>D3A0312</i></p>	
<p>This Storm is Called Progress Grayson Cooke and Dugal McKinnon</p> 	<p>Grayson Cooke's footage of the Naracoorte Caves in South Australia is juxtaposed against time-lapse video of Landsat satellite images of Antarctic ice shelves, and acoustically framed by Dugal McKinnon's electronic score.</p> <p>Image: <i>This Storm is Called Progress</i> (video still)</p>	
<p>The Wind Never Sleeps Paul Harrington</p> 	<p>Two mesmerizing kinetic wind sculptures by local artist Paul Harrington will be installed in the Gallery garden. The works, stimulated by the wind, respond with a visual dance in tune with the natural environment.</p> <p>Image: Paul Harrington, <i>Starboard Tack</i></p>	



upcoming exhibitions

Exhibition Dates: 28 June – 23 July 2017

Annual NAIDOC Exhibition | Group Show



This year's NAIDOC theme, 'Our Language Matters', is an opportunity to celebrate the unique and essential role that Indigenous languages play in cultural identity.

Gathering Event:

Sun 2 July 2017

Image: 2016 NAIDOC Exhibition

Wahng Nguiliboo, Karridjarrkdurrkmirri, Working Together | Group Exhibition



A textile exhibition from the Bundjalung Wake Up Time Women, Casino and the Kunwinjku Women from Injalak Arts & Crafts, Oenpelli, Arnhem Land.

Launch Event:

Thu 29 June 2017

Image: Kuwinjku women – Screenprinting Marabu textile print

JULY 2017

NAIDOC Week Workshops



The Gallery hosts a range of artist run creative workshops coinciding with the Annual NAIDOC Exhibition. These 'all age' family workshops celebrate and share Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture and history through story and art making.

For further booking information, sign up for the Gallery's e-News or visit the 'What's On' section of the NRCG website. www.nrcgballina.com.au

Image: Weaving Workshops - NAIDOC 2016

Exhibition Dates: 26 July – 20 August 2017 | Launch Event: Thursday 27 July 2017

Hinterland | Maggie Cross



Hinterland focuses on the varied landscapes of this region. Inspired by the natural landscape, the artist uses charcoal to create dramatic tonal works that embody the energy of the local hinterland. Maggie has a background as a visual arts teacher and workshop facilitator.

Image: Maggie Cross, Hill Top

Wrack | Diana White

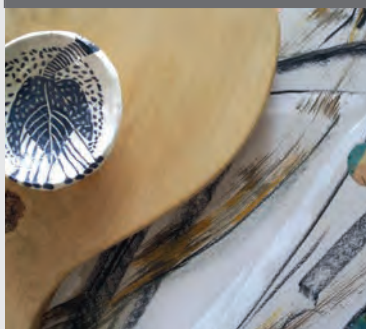


Diana uses simple abstract shapes to project a powerful sense of underlying emotions and landscapes of the mind. Her works are based on the maritime mystery of an ancient shipwreck, a generational love story and an obsession with discovery.

Image: Diana White, Illusion and Loss

AUGUST 2017

Sticks no Stones | Kerrie Howland, Annie Roberts, Jeff Keyes



An organic installation of artworks inspired by the artists' time shared at Sportsman Creek conservation area in NSW. The atmosphere, moods and visual imagery of this unique riparian sand island inspired the collective creativity for the works included in this exhibition.

Image: Kerry Howland, Seed and Flow

Pilgrimage of Expression | Dianne Ingram



This exhibition explores the artist's personal journey and changing vision, relating to the landscape and the figure, seeing them, as independent and also intertwined, and accepting of one another.

Image: Dianne Ingram, Campfire

connected community



What's on? COMMUNITY EVENTS



2017 BALLINA FOOD AND WINE FESTIVAL

30 June – 2 July

ballinafoodandwine.com.au

The Rotary Club of Ballina-on-Richmond invite you to join us for our 8th Ballina Food and Wine Festival. The festival is a multi-day event comprising of 3 different events over three days.

Friday 30 June, the Cricketers Arms Gala Dinner evening at the Ballina RSL Club starts off the festival. Enjoy a four-course gourmet dinner, designed and prepared by Ballina RSL Executive Chef Blake Seymour, using the finest of our regions local produce. Multi award-winning songstress, Kellie Knight and her jazz/funk ensemble, The Daze will be performing.

Experience Taste the Region Tour bus tour on Friday 30 June or Saturday 1 July. Celebrating fresh local produce is what these bus tours are all about. Get up close and personal with the growers and producers, this is a true paddock to plate experience.

Sunday 2 July is the Main Festival Day at the Ballina Jockey Club. Experience an exciting mix of over 70 foodies, cottage industries, wineries and brewers exhibiting. The line up has the best local entertainers including Bourbon Street, Glenn Massie, Leigh James & Elizabeth Lord and back by popular demand Jed Zarb from Sydney.

And of course there will be cooking demonstrations by top chefs along with wine and beer information sessions. Sunday is an opportunity to enjoy a multicultural experience, in one place, right here in Ballina. The Sunday festival is for 18+ only.



NAIDOC WEEK

1 – 9 July

ballina.nsw.gov.au

NAIDOC Week is a time to celebrate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander history, culture and achievements and is an opportunity to recognise the contributions that Indigenous Australians make to our country and society. The 2017 theme "Our Languages Matter" aims to emphasise and celebrate the unique and essential role that Indigenous languages play in cultural identity, linking people to their land and water, and is the transmission of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander history, spirituality and rites, through story and song.

NRCG Annual NAIDOC Exhibition from Wednesday 28 June to Sunday 23 July.

NAIDOC Week Saturday 1 July to Sunday 9 July:

Saturday 1 July – Yardabalair (To Sing) Music Event at Missingham Amphitheatre from 9:30am – 3pm. Live music, stalls, displays and workshops for didge making, boomerang making & throwing, Aboriginal painting and dancing.

Monday 3 July – The annual celebration walk starting from the front of the Ballina RSL Club from 10.30am, proceeding along River Street to the VIC. Refreshments, BBQ, stalls and games later in closed section of carpark behind Richmond Room / VIC. Everyone welcome.

Tuesday 4 July – Cultural Day from 10am to – 2:30pm at Wardell Rec Grounds with Jarjum activities, elders games, weaving, cultural activities.

Wednesday 5 July – Sports & Stalls Day at Kingsford Smith Park – I am yet to receive an Application for these events however it will be similar to last year's Sports Day.

Thursday 6 July – AECG Awards & Cinema Under the Stars at Missingham Park Amphitheatre from 3.30pm – 7.30pm.



SKULLCANDY OZ GROM OPEN

7 – 12 July

Lennox Head

skullcandyozgromopen.com.au

The Skullcandy Oz Grom Day presented by Vissla is now in its fifth year!

The event is run by Le-Ba boardriders in association with Surfing NSW. Some of the previous competitors have gone on to make it all the way to World Surf League (WSL) such as the very first winner of the event Leonardo Fioravanti from Italy.

The event has now established itself as one of the finest grom competitions in the world, attracting surfers from all over the world wanting to add the prestigious title to their resume. The success of the event is contributed largely to the generosity of the local community to provide goods and services in order for funding to be directed to employing a professional judging panel, computerised scoring system and live streaming.

The support that businesses provide to the event is returned in spades – with many reporting their best trading for the year during the event. The town is a buzz with visitors from all over Australia and different parts of the world and lifelong friendships are made. Get down to Lennox Head, grab something to eat from one of the local eateries and watch some of the best junior surfers in the world.



Events listed are correct at time of publication.
Visit discoverballina.com or telephone 1800 777 666 for event details.



12TH ANNUAL BALLINA LIONS FUN + RUN + WALK

Sunday 6 August
Missingham Bridge Reserve
ballinalions.com

The 12th Annual Ballina Lions Fun-Run-Walk commences 9am at the Missingham Bridge Reserve.

There are 12 events, starting and finishing at the Missingham Amphitheatre including 10km Open, 5km Open, 17-years and under, 12-years and under, over 50s and 5km walk for male, female and families.

Proceeds from this year's event will benefit Heartfelt House Alstonville, Ballina Hope Haven, Lions Childhood Cancer Research and Ballina Lighthouse and Lismore Surf Life Saving Club.

Registrations on the day commence at 8am. Pre-register online at ballinalions.com



RAINBOW REGION DRAGON BOAT REGATTA

26 – 27 August
Shaws Bay, East Ballina
rainbowdragons.com.au

Dragon boat crews from far and wide will converge on Ballina for the fifth Rainbow Region Dragon Boat Club Regatta.

Crews will compete in a 1km Chase Race, 100m Splash 'n Dash Round Robin and the hotly contested State of Origin on Saturday afternoon. The regatta will also feature a para-paddle exhibition race for paddlers with a disability.

On Sunday there will be a full day of 200m sprint racing involving dragon boat sports clubs from NSW and Queensland as well as community teams drawn from the local area.

If you would like to enter a community team, contact Juliette on 0421 550 335.

This is an officially sanctioned Dragon Boats NSW regatta, sponsored by the Shaws Bay Hotel. Spectators are very welcome to come along and experience the excitement at this family-friendly, fully catered, alcohol-free sporting event.



PADDY BUGDEN COMMEMORATIONS

Saturday 16 September
[rslalstonville@gmail.com.au](mailto:rslalstonville@gmail.com)

The Alstonville RSL Sub Branch along with the Rotary Club of Alstonville and other community groups will hold a memorial service to commemorate the 100 year Anniversary of Paddy Bugden being awarded the Victoria Cross. The Victoria Cross (VC) is the most highly coveted decoration awarded to Navy, Army and Air Force personnel who by conspicuous gallantry distinguished themselves above their comrades.

The day will commence with the family and guests gathering in the RSL Hall for a meet and greet. At 11am a Memorial Service will be held at the Paddy Bugden VC Memorial followed by a RAAF Fly Past.

Family and guests will move to the Federal Hotel, once owned by Paddy's mother and his place of work. The day will finish with a visit to Crawford House (Alstonville Historical Society).

2017 Ballina Cup Local Event Day

The NSW Minister for Industrial Relations has advised Thursday 14 September 2017 will be a "local event" day and not a public holiday.

What does this mean for schools? Schools will operate as normal, therefore buses will be operational.

What does this mean for employers and employees? A declared local event does not mean that employers are compelled to treat the day as a public holiday. Entitlements to paid leave or penalty rates on a local event day will only arise where agreed to at the workplace level, usually in the form of an enterprise agreement or by contract.

**for further
information**

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

market calendar

Discover original artworks, handicrafts, fashion, jewellery, secondhand goods, as well as fresh local produce...or just sit back, relax and enjoy the sights and sounds of your local market.

BALLINA FARMERS MARKET (Weekly)

Every Sunday morning

7am – 11am

Commemoration Park
Bentinck Street
Ballina

EAST BALLINA LIONS CLUB COMMUNITY MARKET (Monthly)

**Every third Sunday
of the month**

7am – 1pm

Canal Road (between Saunders
Oval and Ballina RSL Bowling Club)
Ballina

LENNOX HEAD COMMUNITY MARKET (Monthly)

**Every second and fifth
Sunday of the month**

8am – 2pm

Williams Reserve
Lennox Head

THE PLATEAU MARKET AT ALSTONVILLE (Monthly)

**Every second Sunday
of the month**

8am – 2pm

Alstonville Showgrounds
Alstonville

There's a craft market, a car-boot market or a farmers market, somewhere in the Northern Rivers, every weekend.

View the Northern Rivers Market Guide at discoverballina.com to see where the markets are this week!

Northern Rivers Outriggers Canoe Club (NROCC) New Clubhouse

In May the Northern Rivers Outrigger Canoe Club (NROCC) celebrated the official opening of their clubhouse and compound in Ballina. The club had much to celebrate with a new club name, clubhouse and the club's return to competition with the national sporting body Australian Outrigger Canoe Racing Association (AOCRA).

President Peter Brunt is confident of the club's future, "We have built first class facilities thanks to a \$15,000 Community Building Partnership (CBP) grant, land provided by the Ballina Shire Council and the tremendous efforts of local contractors and club members.

"We have an amazing group of members who have built a fantastic club and who enjoy both the social and competitive aspects of the sport. Ballina is an ideal playground for this exciting sport where we can keep fit on stunning coastal waters."

Head Coach and former Olympian Denise Cooper said the club has many exciting events on the horizon both in Australia and overseas, "With a positive focus and renewed energy we look forward to getting back into racing. We have had many new members and we love inducting them into this sport".

Northern Rivers Outrigger Canoe Club will soon host a "come and try" day with a free introductory paddle. For more information visit ballinaoutriggers.com.au or follow them on Facebook.



ballina parkrun

Ballina Coast Parkrun is a fun free weekly run or walk starting at Missingham Park every Saturday with participants brief at 6.45am and run start at 7am.

Afterwards join them for a relaxing coffee or breakfast at a local cafe.

Please register at www.parkrun.com.au/register and bring your barcode to the event. For weekly updates follow Ballina Parkrun on Facebook.





CELEBRATING WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY 2017

The Ballina Shire community celebrated World Environment Day on Friday 2 June by planting trees on the Lennox Headland.

Since 2003, GeoLINK and Ballina Shire Council have hosted the annual Lennox Head Community Tree Planting Day to coincide with World Environment Day – the biggest, most globally celebrated day for positive environmental action.

This popular community event continues its goal of reinstating the Lennox headland back to the way it was in the 1860s and, through the planting of littoral rainforest species, creating a lasting natural legacy for generations to come.

It was a great turn out of the community with local service clubs, schools and businesses all pitching in to revegetate the Lennox Headland.

Well done Ballina Shire!



Happy National Volunteer Week!

Ballina Shire has hundreds of dedicated volunteers who help make our community a great place to live and visit!

Council held a special morning tea at Ballina Surf Club to thank our volunteers.

Council operates the following volunteer programs:

- Ballina Byron Gateway Airport Ambassador
- Broadband for Seniors Tutoring
- Landcare and Coastcare
- Community Participation Program (Garden Restoration)
- Northern Rivers Community Gallery.

Want to become a volunteer?

Visit ballina.nsw.gov.au (search volunteer)



Youth Frontiers Mentors Needed

Would you like to help our youth make a difference in our community?

The Youth Frontiers community mentoring program needs adults who can spare an hour per week to provide one-on-one mentoring in our local Ballina Coast High School with Year 8 and 9 students who are working on a community project.

REGISTER:

Step 1: Go to youthfrontiers.com.au and click on register to be a mentor today (blue information box that will turn purple when highlighted)

Step 2: Enter your details into all of the fields and hit submit or contact Dean Files 0419 874 520 or email dean.files@bbbsau.org for more information

www.bigbrothersbigsisters.org.au





MID-YEAR REPORT: SCHOOL ZONE SAFETY

School zones help protect children in and around schools and generally operate when there are large numbers of children moving about, from 8am to 9.30am and 2.30pm to 4pm.

There are a number of controls around school zones to improve safety, such as:

- 40 km/h speed zones for drop-off and pick-up (lower speed limits reduce the risk of a crash)
- Flashing lights at entrances to 40km/h school zones
- Dragon's teeth markings painted on road to remind you of the zone
- Time limited parking zones to increase safety and access to schools during peak periods.

Council Rangers attend school zones in the morning and afternoon, in marked and unmarked cars. Rangers observe vehicle movements and will take photos as evidence of illegal parking and stopping. Penalty infringement notices and fines will be issued to drivers doing the wrong thing, and they may even lose demerit points.

TIPS ON KEEPING YOUR CHILD SAFE....

Make a school travel plan with your child

- Agree on a meeting point inside the school grounds or at the pick-up point
- Plan to park and walk. Parking a block or so away and walking to meet your child is a good result. Hold hands with children under 10 years of age.
- Make a back-up plan for times when you run late, e.g. tell your child to go to the school office if you're not there by 3.30pm.
- Use the SAFETY DOOR (the door closest to the kerb) when getting kids in and out of the car.
- If you are driving through a school zone with a flagged children's crossing, stop if someone is waiting to cross.
- Only buses can park in the bus zone.

Catching the bus

- Have a back-up plan in case your child misses the bus, e.g. go to the school office
- Stand back from the kerb when waiting for the bus
- Be polite – buses have a code of conduct
- Don't block the aisles with bags
- When off the bus, wait for the bus to move off before you try to cross the road.

Riding a bike

- Wear a helmet
- One person per bike. Don't let friends ride on the handle bars
- Dismount when using pedestrian crossings.

More information: Helen Carpenter, Road Safety Officer, 6686 4444

Pixel the Past: digital media project

Pixel the Past digital stories of Alstonville High School students and the Alstonville Plateau Historical Society were exhibited at the Northern Rivers Community Gallery in April 2017.

Participants attended workshops over nine months to create unique stories of our past. The workshops were led by historian Kate Gahan and mentored by digital media creators Duke Albada, Susie Forster and Karenza Ebejer.

Comments from the participants:

"I enjoyed the amazing talents the participating youth had in regards to self-sufficiency and independence in learning. Also the inter-generational aspect of the project has opened many eyes of possibilities of working with people not of your generation" - Heritage Buddy

"I loved that we got to combine our love for film and video with our love of history!" - Student

"I thought they [the projects] really accurately reflected the effort the kids put in, and gave them a lot, both as history projects and film projects." - Digital Mentor

The digital stories and project film "The Making of..." can be viewed on the Northern Rivers Community Gallery website nrcgballina.com.au (search pixel the past).

The Pixel the Past project was initiated by Ballina Shire Council and funded by the NSW Heritage Grants Program.





Playground Renewal Program

When you're at a loss about what to do to keep your children happy and healthy, playgrounds offer a great avenue for play. In fact there are over 45 playgrounds in Ballina Shire to choose from.

Council has developed a Playground Upgrade Plan to improve community access to quality playgrounds in their local areas. Playgrounds are categorised as either local, district or regional. This hierarchy supports different population catchment sizes and determines the location and type of equipment needed for each playground. The Plan also provides a framework to upgrade and replace playground equipment.

New playground equipment is currently being installed in Porter Park, West Ballina and equipment at Bullwinkle Park in Alstonville and Rubiton Park in Wollongbar is currently being upgraded.

Sites for installation of new playground equipment:

- Porter Park, West Ballina
- Captain Cook Park, Ballina
- Cawarra Park, Ballina
- Serpentine Park, East Ballina
- Faulks Reserve, West Ballina

Existing sites to be upgraded:

- Pop Denison Park, East Ballina
- Ross Park, Lennox Head

To view the Playground Upgrade Plan visit ballina.nsw.gov.au (search playground).

Council currently manages its playgrounds in accordance with relevant Australian Standards for the benefit of the community. An action plan has been prepared. The works in the action plan are the highest priority recommended in a recent audit. This process is important to ensure Council meets its duty of care with its management of playgrounds.

New sporting complex for Wollongbar

The much anticipated Wollongbar Sporting Complex is nearing completion.

Spread over 13 hectares the new facilities will include:

- One AFL field/cricket oval
- Two rugby grounds and lighting
- Six tennis courts and lighting
- Four sealed netball courts, and lighting for two courts
- Separate facilities for rugby/AFL + cricket, netball, and tennis clubhouse
- Extensive landscaping to the site and surrounding areas
- Carparking for 292 vehicles and bus parking.

The total cost of the project is \$6.3 million, with \$4.5 million from the Federal Government's Building Better Regional Cities (BBRC) program.

Access to the complex will be from Ramsay Street and Pearces Creek Road. All that is left to be done is the Pearces Creek Road intersection and the new sporting complex will be ready for community use.





WOLLONGBAR
DRAFT STRATEGIC PLAN
2018 – 2038

WOLLONGBAR STRATEGIC PLAN

Initial consultation with the Wollongbar community was undertaken in April and May to inform the preparation of draft Planning and Environmental Study and draft Strategic Plan. Council staff talked with local residents and business owners at the Wollongbar Shopping Centre in April 2017.

Council planning staff also door knocked selected residential properties to gather more information about why people live in Wollongbar, the things that make Wollongbar a special place, and the issues that the community considers are important as Wollongbar develops over the next 20 year period.

In total 74 people have been interviewed and have provided valuable information which will be used, together with survey responses, to prepare draft strategic planning documents for public exhibition early in 2018.



Wollongbar residents together with a Council staff member at the Wollongbar Shopping Centre consultation on 19 May 2017.

Council staff who undertook the Wollongbar community consultation initiatives said that most people struggled to think of any negative aspects of life in Wollongbar in 2017. They found local residents to be friendly and readily willing to share their thoughts about the issues of importance for Wollongbar's future development.



ALSTONVILLE
DRAFT STRATEGIC PLAN
2017 – 2037

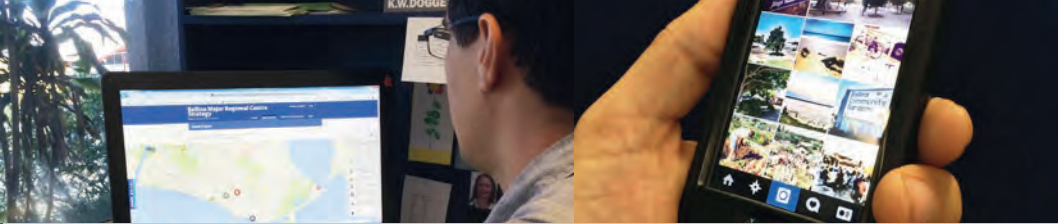
ALSTONVILLE STRATEGIC PLAN

The exhibition of the draft Alstonville Planning and Environmental Study and draft Strategic Plan 2037 concluded on 12 May 2017 following a six week exhibition period.

The exhibition was launched at the Alstonville Plateau Bowls and Sports Club on 3 April 2017. More than 70 people attended the launch to hear a presentation from Council staff on the ideas contained within the study document. Submissions received are now being considered. At this stage it is anticipated that the Council will consider submissions received at its Ordinary Meeting on 27 July 2017.

Council thanks the many Alstonville residents who made submissions or completed the online survey.





IMPROVING DIGITAL LITERACY

Technology provides an enormous opportunity to improve work efficiencies and enables Council to be more sustainable.

Ballina Shire Council is continually looking at opportunities to streamline processes and recently introduced online forms for inspection reporting in the field. Staff members who don't normally use computers needed upskilling so that they could confidently use the devices.

Thanks to grant funding, Council engaged TAFE NSW to train staff in smartphone devices, tablets, Microsoft Office software, and internet security. The first cohort of 30 staff has now completed their training.

TAFE NSW developed the program specifically for Ballina Shire Council after undertaking a thorough IT skills audit of the workforce.

Well done to our new graduates!



sewer diagram requests now available online

Ballina Shire Council is always looking at ways to improve community access to information.

If you are a plumber, home renovator, property developer or real estate agent you'll be pleased to know that you can complete a request for a sewer diagram online.

To apply visit Ballina Shire Council's website **ballina.nsw.gov.au** (search council forms)

Diagrams will be sent direct to your nominated email address.



where to get info... extreme weather conditions



ROAD CLOSURES

myroadinfo.com.au for Ballina Shire rural road info
livetraffic.com for highway and major arterial road info

RADIO STATIONS

- Paradise FM 101.9
- ABC North Coast 94.5
- 2LM 104.3
- ZZZ FM 100.9

FIELD CLOSURES

24-hour hotline 02 6686 1499
(recorded messages from individual sporting clubs).

WEATHER CONDITIONS

bom.gov.au Bureau of Meteorology

BALLINA BYRON GATEWAY AIRPORT

Your local airline for flights to and from Ballina:

Rex Airlines 13 17 13

rex.com.au

Jetstar Airways 13 15 38

jetstar.com

Virgin Australia 13 67 89

virginaustralia.com.au

ACTIONS TO TAKE

- Alerts are issued via Council's website **ballina.nsw.gov.au** and via your local radio station.
- Delay any unnecessary travel until conditions have cleared.
- Look out for your neighbours
- If water is overflowing street stormwater drains, refrain from using internal water eg: washing machines, dishwashers, baths, showers and flushing of toilets until the water has cleared.
- Watch for Council, SES and other State Government agency updates.

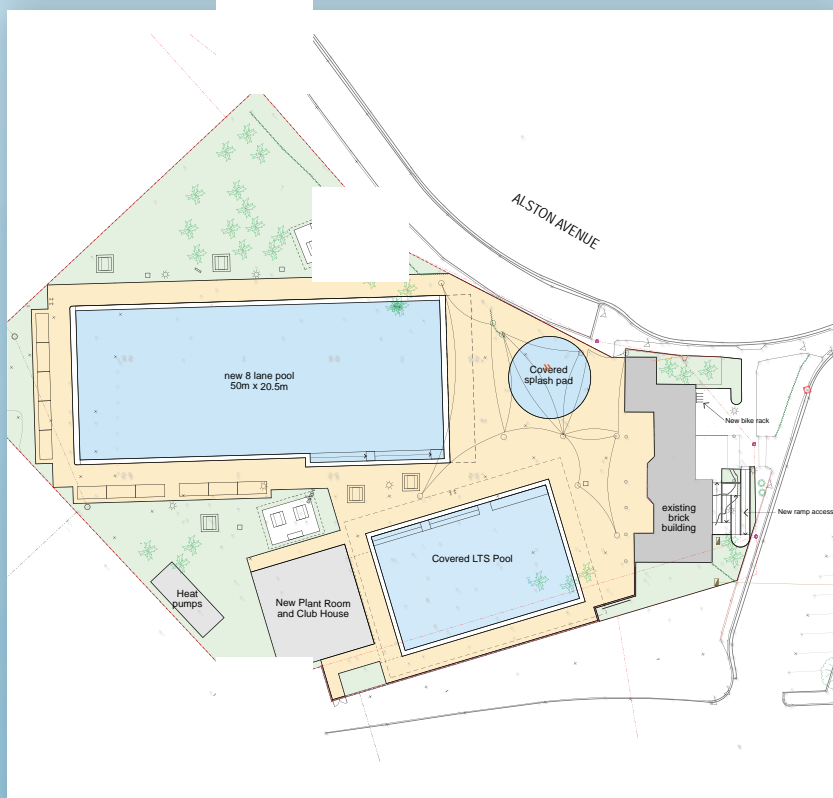
KEY CONTACT NUMBERS

- **SES** 13 25 00
- **Ballina Shire Council**
02 6686 4444
or **emergency after hours** 02 6626 6954
- **Emergency Services**
Police, Ambulance, Fire Brigade 000





Pools redevelopment captured on time-lapse video



Next summer the community will be cooling off in revamped and modern aquatic facilities thanks to major Council investment.

After 40-plus years of use the much-loved Ballina and Alstonville swimming pools are being redeveloped simultaneously. Works are due to be completed by the end of the year.

Once completed, the up-to-date aquatic facilities will become valuable community assets for the next 40 years.

WHAT IS PLANNED?

Woollams Pty Ltd is now constructing the new pools and facilities, which will include:

- FINA compliant 50m x 20m heated pools.
Each pool will have eight 2.5m-wide lanes for competition swimming and water polo games
- 25m x 15m heated enclosable pools for swimming lessons, children's play, lap swimming and rehabilitation
- access ramps into all pools
- wet play splash areas for children
- the Ballina pool will have a new amenities building and transparent fencing along the Richmond River
- enhanced landscaping at each site.



Construction of the Ballina Pool is being captured on time-lapse video. The video also captured the aftermath of Cyclone Debbie.

To view the video, and concept plans, follow the link to the Swimming Pools Redevelopment Project from the homepage of Council's website ballina.nsw.gov.au.

You can also check out drone footage as the Alstonville and Ballina Pools redevelopment projects unfold on YouTube. Search Alstonville Pool Upgrade and Ballina Memorial Pool Upgrade at YouTube.com. (Footage by Andrew Trease)



Pioneer Cemetery Memorial Wall

Pioneer Cemetery is significant to the history of the early European settlement of Ballina.

It is located on the corner of The Serpentine and Hill Street East Ballina, and is the site of the first cemetery in Ballina and was in use from 1843 to 1915. The area was declared a Rest Area by an Act of Parliament in 1957. All remaining headstones were built into a memorial wall in remembrance of the pioneers of the district.

To preserve the historical value of the site, Council has recently completed a project to straighten the Captain Easton Memorial. Council is also looking at non-degrading options to highlight the inscriptions so that the headstones are easier to read.

If you're interested in learning more about who is buried in any of Ballina Shire's cemeteries download the burial register from Council's website ballina.nsw.gov.au (search cemetery)

Richmond Tweed Family History Society is also a great local resource for anyone interested in researching their family history. For information visit rtfhs.org.au



WHO IS NEWLOG?

Did you know that the life of the road network is being reduced significantly by damage resulting from the overloading of heavy vehicles?

Engineers design and build roads taking into account many factors in the design life of a road. Heavy vehicle use is one factor. That's where Newlog come in. Newlog is short for North East Weight of Loads Group, and they are a resource sharing cooperative of eight North Coast Councils which operate under the authority of the Roads Act 1993.

The aims and objectives of Newlog are to preserve the road system asset and promote road safety, by encouraging heavy vehicles to comply with weight regulations on roads.

The member Councils include Tweed Shire, Byron Shire, Ballina Shire, Kyogle Shire, Richmond Valley, Lismore City, Clarence Valley and Tenterfield Council and the Group is administered by Ballina Shire Council.

It is estimated that the Newlog operation provides savings in excess of \$2.9 million in pavement repair costs in the North Coast of NSW each year.

Since Newlog commenced operation in 1995, the number of overloaded vehicles has decreased from 15 in every hundred to about three in every hundred, and the magnitude of grossly overloaded vehicles has decreased significantly.



engaged leadership

Burns Point Ferry

The website for local traffic reports is called myroadinfo. This reports on both local and regional roads.

It also reports on changes to Burns Point Ferry operations. Simply follow these steps to download the myroadinfo app:

STEP 1. Locate myroadinfo in the App Store, and download it

STEP 2. Register as a user

STEP 3. Search for Burns Point Ferry

STEP 4. Click on the love heart in the top right hand corner of your screen to make Burns Point Ferry a favourite.

...this is a more responsive way to keep informed, as changes to ferry operations will now be feeding into myroadinfo.com.au

Burns Point Ferry operates between 5.30am to 12.30am daily.

The Ferry is closed for regular maintenance on the second Tuesday of each month between 9am and 12 noon.

Stay up to Date at myroadinfo.com.au



North Coast Shark Net Trial results being examined

The Department of Primary Industries' (DPI) shark scientists are analysing data from the North Coast Shark Net Trial, including the catch of sharks and non-target animals, as well as community attitudes.

The nets were deployed in early December and were removed at the end of May, two weeks earlier than anticipated, following an increase in whale sightings along the NSW coastline.

The nets were deployed at Seven Mile Beach at Lennox Head, Sharpes, Shelly and Lighthouse beaches at Ballina, and Main Beach at Evans Head.

DPI Director General Fisheries, Dr Geoff Allan, said an important component of the net trial has been to assess the views of the local community on the effectiveness of the trial. "We have been working throughout the trial to keep the community fully informed through regular stakeholder meetings, community drop-in stands at the trial beaches, business visits, advertising, beach signage and mail-outs."

A community survey was conducted online and over the phone and also through community drop-in stands in November 2016 and May 2017 near the end of the trial to assess the community's views.

All the data from the trial will now be examined to assess the effectiveness of the trial.

"There is no silver bullet when it comes to shark attack mitigation. However our aim has always been to minimise the risk to swimmers and surfers whilst minimising the amount of by-catch," said Dr Allan.

The DPI will continue to deploy a suite of measures as part of the NSW Government's \$16 million Shark Management Strategy, including more SMART Drumlines, helicopter and drone surveillance.

An additional 10 SMART drumlines will be deployed in early July, which will bring the total number to 35 on the North Coast.

Aerial surveillance will continue every weekend and every day during the July school holidays.

Drones will also take to the skies during the July school holidays detecting sharks, while minimising harm to marine life.

The Department said the SMART Drumlines are proving very effective in catching target species (white, bull or tiger sharks) with minimal bycatch.

"Our SMART Drumlines are very effective at catching sharks. They intercept the shark, an alert is sent to contractors who then remove the shark from the line and, if conditions allow, relocate it," said Dr Allan.

During the mesh net trial SMART Drumlines caught far more target sharks than mesh nets. For example, during the first five months of the trial 29 target sharks were caught on the SMART drumlines compared to six in the nets. Their success as a shark mitigation tool means the NSW Government will deploy an additional 50 SMART Drumlines along the NSW coastline later this year.

"We are currently determining locations, using historical data and new data from the aerial surveillance over the recent summer school holiday period," he said.

Community input will inform part of the government's decision on the best measures to protect swimmers and surfers.

A decision on the future of the nets is expected by spring. For more information visit DPI's website www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/fishing/sharks/management/shark-net-trial.





MAKING SAFER ROADS

In March 2017 Council commenced work on a major upgrade to the intersection of Skennars Head Road and The Coast Road.

Due to the accident history of this intersection, the Roads and Maritime Services (RMS) is fully funding the project, estimated to be \$2 million under their 'Safer Roads' program.

The four-month project will include substantial earthworks to reduce the existing steep approaches at the intersection including storm water drainage improvements. The project will also bring improved road alignments and a reduction in speed limits to 60 kmph, and will allow for safer exiting for motorists entering The Coast Road from Skennars Head Road.

Works are anticipated to be completed late June or early July (weather dependant)

Further information on the project can be found on Council's website ballina.nsw.gov.au (search Skennars Head roundabout).

RECENTLY COMPLETED

NASHUA ROAD, FERNLEIGH (part segment 10) – Road reconstruction

ROSS LANE, LENNOX HEAD CURVE CORRECTION – All works nearing completion.

WARDELL BOARDWALK – Construction of a three-metre wide by 70 metre long timber boardwalk along Bridge Drive between the existing village jetty and the Pacific Highway overbridge. Council is now working on footpath connections east and west of the boardwalk.

RIVER STREET – Bridge maintenance and road pavement works between Fishery Creek Road and Brunswick Street

CURRENT PROJECTS

SKENNARS HEAD ROAD AND THE COAST ROAD

ROUNDAABOUT – Road Closure of The Coast Road remains in place. Earthworks phase is complete. Installation of street lights due to commence in early June.

FUTURE PROJECTS – JULY TO DECEMBER 2017

GRANT STREET, BALLINA – Reconstruction to Grant Street between River and Tamar Streets, which will include drainage replacement. Road closures will be in place.

ROSS LANE AND THE COAST ROAD, PROPOSED

ROUNDAABOUT – A Development Application including EIS has been lodged. The project is funded by the Australian Government Black Spot Program with an approximate value of \$1.9M over two years.

MAROM CREEK ROAD, ROUS MILL (part segment 130) – Road reconstruction budget \$360,000.

FAWCETT LANE, BALLINA (segment 10) – Road reconstruction, budget \$74,000

SHARED PATH EAST (ALONG THE COAST ROAD) – Council has an application with the RMS for grant funding (50%) towards the completion of the remaining section of the shared path between Skennars Head Road (at the roundabout under construction) and Pat Morton Lookout. This is planned to commence in the 2017/2018 financial year should the grant be successful.

TAMARIND DRIVE – Road pavement works and maintenance on Canal Bridge.

BOAT RAMPS AND PONTOONS – Preparations are underway to install new boat ramps and pontoons in various locations in Ballina Shire: **Pontoons:** Captain Cook Park, Faulks Reserve, Fishery Creek and Wardell. **Pontoon and Boat Ramp:** Keith Hall.

GPS Machine Controls

**Did you know Council graders can drive themselves?
With help of course!**

Council have installed machine controlled global positioning systems into the graders and excavators which means they can now drive themselves! They do this with detailed accuracy according to the design data that has been entered.

Instead of using traditional survey methods with spirit levels and staff, the introduction of this technology ensures we have more accurate data. More accurate data allows for more design options to choose from, it means a better finish of the job, and more thorough monitoring of the project.

Brendan Kent, one of Council's Plant Operators, finds that the new technology is really helpful with construction jobs, "we have more accuracy, less guys on the ground having to remeasure, and it also means that surveyors don't have to be on site all the time to set pegs out."

Council uses this type of technology for projects such as the upgrade to Angels Beach Drive roundabout construction and the construction of the Skennars Head Road and The Coast Road roundabout.

What this means for the community is a reduction in the time it takes to set out a job, more accurate work undertaken and best of all, it saves us money in the long run!





LATEST NEWS FROM *ballina byron gateway airport*

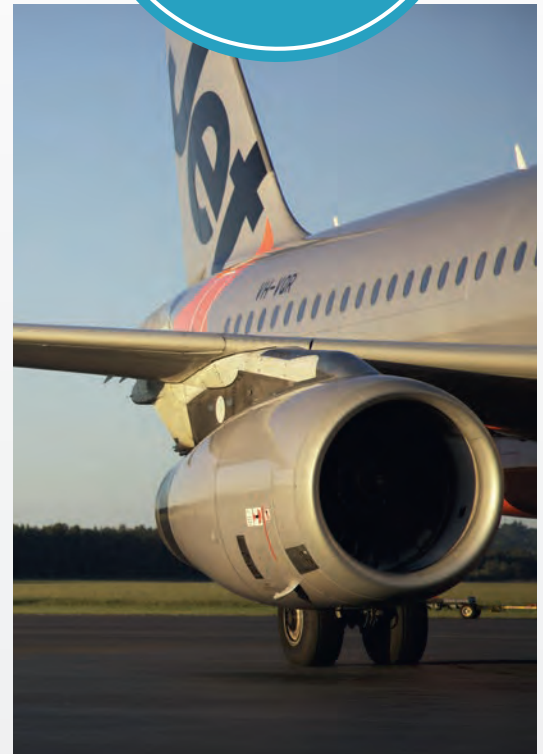


Flying towards a new terminal

The Ballina Byron Gateway Airport's terminal expansion plans are getting set for takeoff with plans well underway. The development application has been submitted to Council and the airport team is continuing their preparations for the \$6.9 million-dollar upgrade. The project is being funded by the NSW Government's NSW Regional Tourism Infrastructure Program (\$4.5 million) and \$2.4 million in loan funding from Ballina Shire Council.

The staging plans are currently being finalised and will feature a landscaped piazza, alfresco dining, and a kids play area. The completed terminal will be a great asset to our region and will benefit the airport's growing number of passengers, which have doubled in the past five years and are expected to hit 700,000 in the next five years.

The expansion project will be a long-term investment and will benefit locals, visitors and our local economy. Construction is expected to commence late 2017.



Ballina Byron Gateway Airport continues to break records

The Australia Department of Infrastructure and Regional Development has just released the Domestic aviation activity for March 2017.

The BBGA continues to break records with:

Record numbers through the airport in January 2017 with 51,912 passengers in one month.

Ranked number 11 in the Top Fifty Regional Airports in Australia.

In the Top 20 Airports in Australia which includes the likes of Sydney and Melbourne airports and ranked 5th in this group for growth.

Record annual passenger numbers of 501,187 for the year to 30 April 2017.

That is half a million passengers in one year, great for BBGA, great for our local economy.

With up to 7 flights per day, remember to check BBGA out first and keep it local!

Departures			
Departs	Airline	Destination	Arrivals
06:30	REX	SYDNEY	08:20
09:10	JETSTAR	SYDNEY	10:35
11:45	JETSTAR	SYDNEY	13:10
12:15	FLY PELICAN	NEWCASTLE	13:35
15:55	VIRGIN	SYDNEY	17:15
16:50	JETSTAR	SYDNEY	18:15
19:00	JETSTAR	MELBOURNE	21:15

*All flights/times are subject to change. Details must be confirmed with the relevant airline.



Submit Your School Holiday Activities

The cooler mornings and evenings have arrived which means the Winter school holidays are approaching and families will be looking for things to do.

The School Holiday Activity Sheet is a FREE service and is created by the Ballina Visitor Information Centre. It offers a collation of all the fun activities that are happening over the NSW holiday period (from 1 – 16 July 2017).

It is handed out to visitors that come in to the Ballina Visitor Centre, at the airport terminal and is distributed to local schools and day care centres before the holidays commence. It can also be downloaded from the Discover Ballina website.

To be part of this we need any family friendly activities, events or holiday specials by the 18 June 2017.

If you have any questions please contact the Ballina Visitor Information Centre on 1800 777 666 – they would love to hear from you. Otherwise, send them an email with the information such as the activity, dates, times, costs and contact details. It is important to also send a suitable image so they can add the activity to their events calendar on the website.

Visit discoverballina.com for more information.



SENSE OF PLACE AND VIBRANCY

You may have noticed the new vibrant flag and banner designs flying throughout the Ballina Shire.

Council engaged local artist Rachel Stone to work with local community groups and schools to come up with designs that reflect the diversity of our local culture and heritage.

The new designs are on display in the Ballina Town Centre and other locations in Alstonville, Wardell, Lennox Head, Angels Beach North, Kerr Street, Fishery Creek Bridge and Canal Bridge in Ballina.

The banner and flag poles provide a vibrant and visual presence for community events. Community groups are welcome to hire the poles to promote their events.

Hire information is available on Council's website ballina.nsw.gov.au (search banner poles).





around the *business chambers*

alstonville wollongbar chamber of commerce

Start-up home-based businesses are on the rise in the Ballina Shire.

Alstonville Wollongbar Chamber of Commerce has a number of members doing just this.

Recently launched is Pure Nut – a new Macadamia Skin Care range. They love the Farm to Face concept, and source nature inspired premium key ingredients from Australian farmers.

The Manuka honey, a special featured ingredient, is sourced locally and the macadamia oil is extracted from locally grown macadamia nuts.

So how else do home-based businesses support the local business community?

This is how one business keeps it local, to keep profits local:

- Recently Pure Nut engaged Yappy Dog for web design and Paul Tuthill Photography for marketing photos
- Impress Labels for marketing material
- Alstonville Post Office for parcel delivery and packaging supplies
- Alstonville Newsagency for stationery supplies
- Local Cafés for business meetings
- QA Business for business software
- A1 Signs for signage and banners
- Barefruit Marketing for campaign marketing
- Ballina Byron Gateway Airport for easy travel to trade fairs.

It takes a community to grow and nurture a business!



welcome to our new citizens

Fifteen new citizens from Thailand, Scotland, UK, Brazil, Tonga, Germany, Philippines, USA, Cambodia, South Africa and Canada became Australian Citizens in front of family and friends at a ceremony held in the Council Chambers in June 2017.

We hope our new residents find Ballina Shire an ideal place to make their new home.

Pictured: Srey Sokunthea Try and Yao Cha-umdee.

ballina chamber of commerce

Ballina Chamber would like to welcome new Board Member Amanda Edmonds from Edmonds Conveyancing who came on board after the AGM that was held on Wednesday 17 May at the Ramada Hotel & Suites Ballina. Amanda has been a strong supporter of the Chamber and a member since 2004, she said it was her time to give back to the business community of Ballina as a board member of Chamber. Within the Chamber Constitution the board have the ability to have a total of nine Board Members. An invitation was extended and accepted by Whitney Gibson and Jennifer Littler. Whitney who has grown up in Ballina and worked for local law firms and recently opened her own business "Brunswick Legal", catering for the Ballina Community and surrounds. Jennifer went to Xavier Catholic College, completed her Bachelor of Business at Griffith University and for the past five years she has been in the challenging role of Business Development Coordinator for Hertz. We would like to wish all our board members new and existing all the best and thank them for giving their time so generously.

President, Martin Corkery – Riversleigh Guest House

Vice President, Narelle Besseling – Ballina Concrete Pumping

Treasurer, Jamie Doyle – Collins Hume

Secretary/Public Officer, Ray Karam – Nourish Bulk Health Organics

Board Member, Michael Young – McCartney Young Lawyers

Board Member, Chris Duffy – Spaceman Storage

Board Member, Amanda Edmonds – Edmonds Conveyancing

Board Member, Whitney Gibson – Brunswick Legal

Board Member, Jennifer Littler – Hertz

Exciting times are ahead as we have opened up entries into the 2017 Ballina Coast and Hinterland Northern Star Business Excellence Awards!! Save the date for the Gala Awards night to be held on Saturday 12 August, it is a night that the business community come together to celebrate their achievements and toast theirs and others success. Winning a local business award is a valuable way to lift staff morale and pride in your business, take advantage of free marketing, see how you benchmark against other businesses in your field, and attract new clients or business alliances. The awards also provide an annual opportunity for you to review systems and undertake operational improvements. It's a chance to promote your business and its strengths whilst taking advantage of significant promotional opportunities. The Ballina Coast & Hinterland awards program is designed to recognise and reward excellence in local business, foster innovation, and encourage a focus on sustainability, corporate citizenship and safe work practices. You can enter via the website ballinabusinessawards.com.au or call the Chamber on 66815049.

Our coming functions and events are as follows. Business After Hours: 27 June hosted by Summerland Credit Union, 11 July hosted by European Automotive, 8 August hosted by DAISI and 12 September hosted by Triple ZFM. Breakfast Before Business: 19 July at Ballina RSL Club and 22 September at Ramada Hotel & Suites.



lennox head chamber of commerce

LENNOX HEAD BUSINESS AWARDS

Monday 17 July 2017 6pm

Club Lennox

The time is now upon us. If you have a business in Lennox Head, no matter how big or how small, no matter what it is that you do for a crust, and no matter how super busy and super tired you are, make sure you stand up as a part of your Lennox business community and show your pride in your business, yourself and your team.

'The process for entering the Business Awards is very straightforward - it really doesn't take much time out of your day and the benefits outweigh any initial time taken,' says Claire, Chief Juicer at Barefruit Marketing.

'The ceremony is always a great night out. It's a time for local Lennox businesses to come together to support and encourage one another.'

Everyone who has entered their business, laughed alongside fellow local businesses, or supported the awards ceremony with some award sponsorship can recall that we do this like no other.

'There are some awesome businesses in Lennox to be celebrated, from a broad range of industries - there really are some hidden gems here, operating locally, nationally and globally.'

'Winning the awards has been great for our business and further growth. The publicity around the awards and the winners is great, and many of our new clients heard about us first there.'

The Lennox Business Awards night reflects our easy going nature, our love of life, our passion to work hard, laugh, keep on going, and get the job done. The recognition that we get through it all, day by day, each year, by surviving together, and being there for each other.

So here we go again, great food, great fun, great entertainment, yet again a night to remember....GO LENNOX!

To enter the awards and to purchase your tickets for the night go to lennoxchamber.com.au/events.



Ballina Shire plays a starring role...

Shire locals know that we live in a breathtaking area. So it's no surprise that film scouts are knocking on our door to showcase the area.

Our magnificent headland views, coastal walkways and accessibility to Seven Mile and South Ballina Beach give filmmakers the perfect beach shot.

Away from the coast, our hinterland offers charming historical villages, lush rolling hills and rainforests all surrounded by farmland reminiscent of the Tuscan countryside. Our Ballina Coast and Hinterland is truly a natural wonder for filming.

Ballina Shire has already starred in a range of feature films including, *Pirates of the Caribbean 5* and *The Long Goodbye*. It's also appeared in television programs such as *Sydney Weekender*, *Better Homes & Gardens*, and *This is Me*. Advertisers are also heading our way to create Mitsubishi, Mount Franklin Water and Supercheap Auto advertising.

Attracting filmmakers to our area raises Ballina Shire's profile, is great for tourism and also boosts the local economy.

All photography and filming on public spaces must be approved through our Open Spaces and Reserves Team before production can commence. Council also has a filming policy to assist film production companies achieve their vision, but at the same time safeguard the day-to-day activities of our community.

To see our shire on the big screen, check out the Lennox Headland in the closing scenes of *Pirates of the Caribbean 5* released in May 2017.

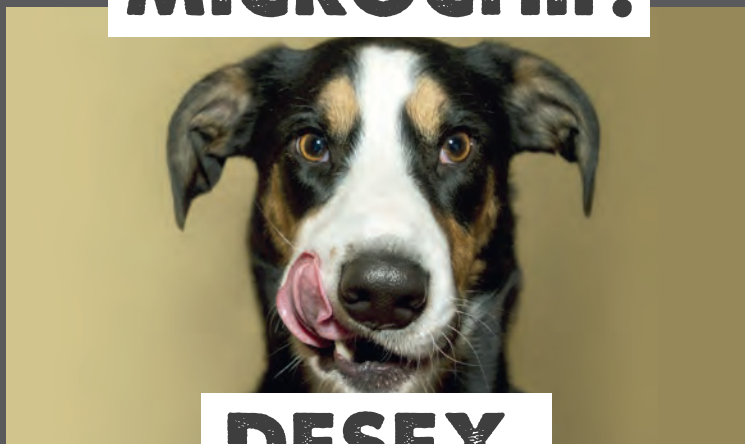
For more information, applications or for the full policy, visit ballina.nsw.gov.au (search filming).



The three step
process to
protect your pet



MICROCHIP.



DESEX.



REGISTER.

Get a **FREE** microchip or \$50 desexing voucher for your
pet on Saturday 24 June at Ballina Animal Shelter.

Bookings essential ph 6686 1210.

Don't forget the final step by registering your pet on the NSW
pet registry: petregistry.nsw.gov.au

on-site sewage management

Report OSSM Systems not operating properly

Council is legally required to regulate the installation and
operation of all OSSM systems in the shire.

Risks to public health and the environment

The inappropriate use or disposal of wastewater can be harmful
to public health and to the environment and may lead to:

- the spread of disease by bacteria, viruses, parasites and
other organisms in the wastewater
- contamination of ground water and surface water
- degradation of soil and vegetation
- loss of amenity caused by odour and insects.

Council will quickly respond and keep your details confidential

Complaints about contamination of surface water or spray drift
should be reported to Council immediately. Complaints about
odour problems are also investigated, since this may be an early
sign of mismanagement or system failure.

Further Information: Development and Environmental Health
phone 02 6686 1210.

ballina.nsw.gov.au (search OSSM)



“

The revised OSSM
Strategy will be
reported to the June
Council Meeting. The
document will be on
exhibition for public
comment in July 2017.

”



PROTECTING YOUR PUBLIC HEALTH



don't catch anything unexpected...

From more information contact Council's Public and Environmental Health Section on 02 6686 1210.
NSW Health provide factsheets on best practice for tattoo artists at health.gov.au



WATER METERS SMARTEN UP

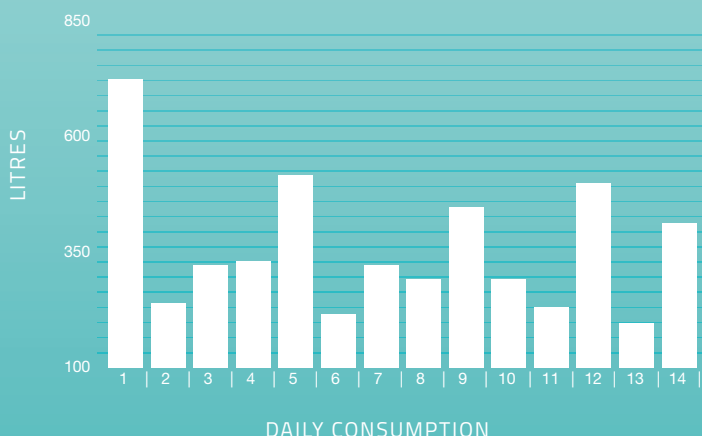
Water usage just got smarter for businesses across our community with the installation of new smart water meter reading devices. Now 160 commercial properties across the shire have access to their water usage data in real time.

Taggle was engaged by Council to replace the existing technology which had become outdated. The new hardware is a smarter alternative that offers users a more secure, accurate and reliable product.

Taggle is leader in smart metering solutions across Australia and their cutting-edge radio water metering technology offers timely water readings and more functional technology.

The new devices have the capacity to provide more useful and up-to-date data to help understand and manage water consumption. These kinds of devices, called smart meters, have been proven to save money and water for customers.

To find out more about Taggle and their water metering technology visit taggle.com.au. For further information contact Council's Water and Wastewater Team on 02 6686 4444 or visit ballinawater.com.au



RECEIVED ONE OF THESE IN YOUR LETTER BOX? THEN DON'T THROW IT OUT.

These water supply interruption cards are hand delivered by Council staff to properties with upcoming changes to their water service. Council has introduced these cards to inform the community about upcoming essential works that impact on their property's water service. Council appreciates the community's patience during works and endeavours to return water services to normal as quickly as possible.



What's going down your drain?

Each year, the average Australian produces 44,000 litres of wastewater or 'used' water that goes into our sewer systems.

With such high amounts it's important we think twice about the materials going down our drains.

The number of blocked sewers due to fat build up in our pipes and pump stations is on the rise.

Cooking oils and fats solidify on the walls of the pipelines and over time cause blockages. This becomes expensive to repair and clean.

These unnecessary maintenance costs also impact on funding for essential infrastructure upgrades and ultimately costs the rate payer.

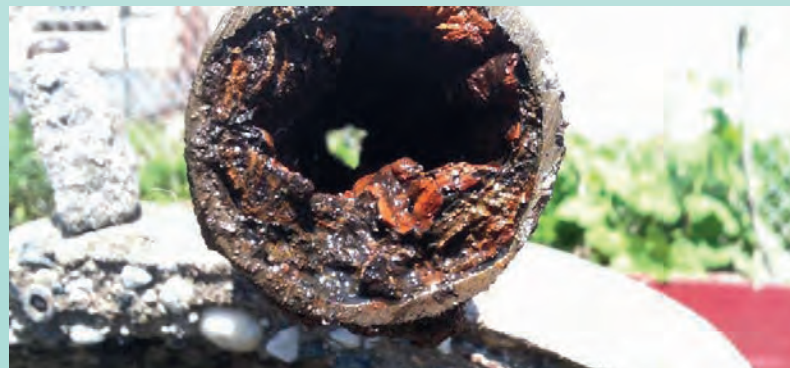
To keep our pipes clear and working correctly, we all need to be aware of what products can and cannot go down our drains and toilets.

These items should not be flushed or poured down the drain:

- cooking oils and fats
- sanitary items
- paint and chemicals
- wet wipes
- nappies
- plastic objects
- colostomy bags.

To dispose of your cooking oils and fats for free, pop them in a sealed or leak-proof container and dispose of them at Council's Community Recycling Centre, 167 Southern Cross Drive, Ballina.

For more information visit Council's water website ballinawater.com.au.



Recycled water is on its way to over 700 Ballina households!

For more information visit ballinawater.com.au or collect your free information pack from our Customer Service Centre, 40 Cherry Street, Ballina.

YOUR WATER'S JOURNEY

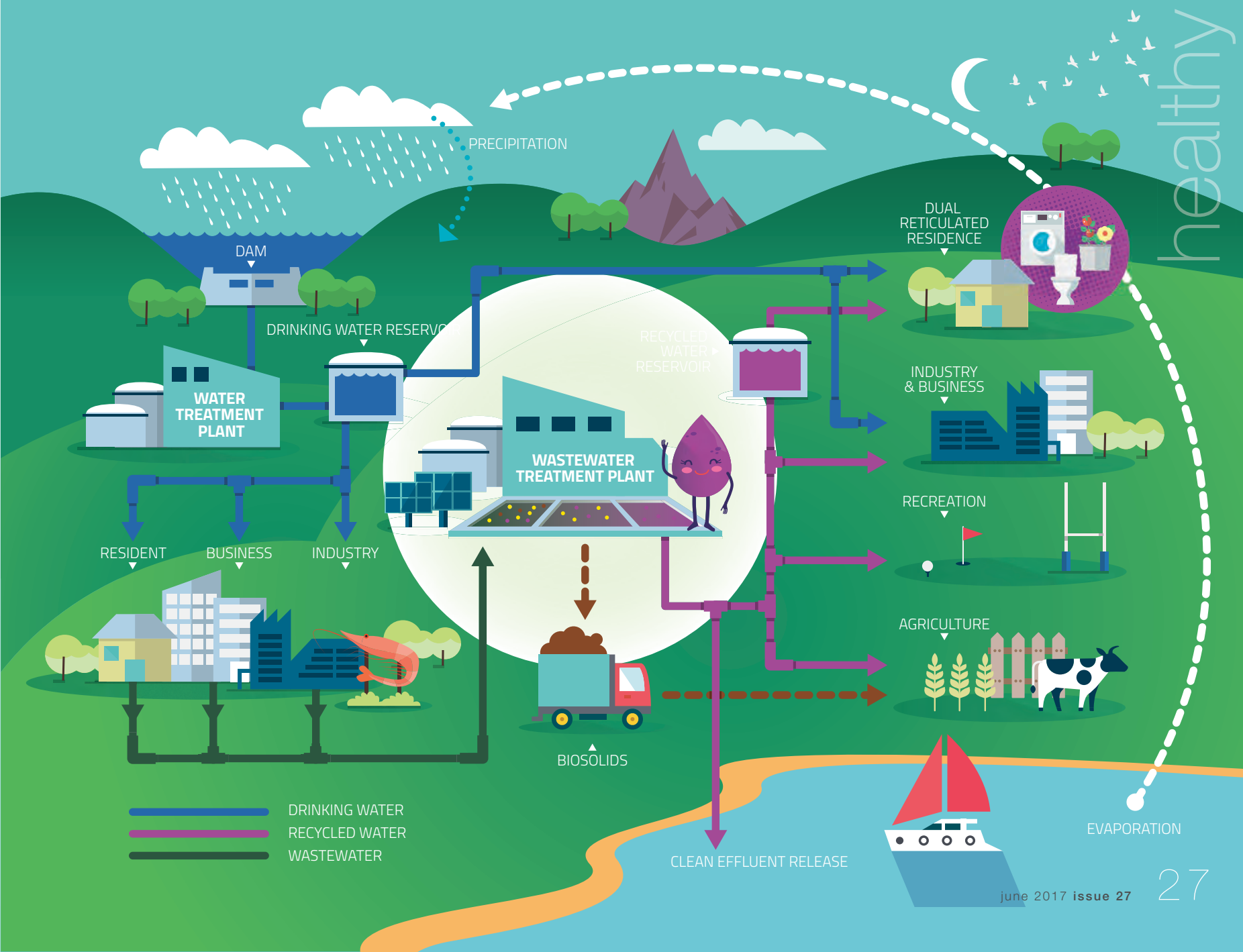
When you turn the tap on do you ever wonder where the water has come from?

In Australia, it's easy to take working toilets and clean water for granted but knowing more about our water cycle helps us all understand just how precious water is!

The urban water cycle explains the way water is collected, used and managed within our shire. Ballina Shire Council manages this process to service Ballina, Alstonville, Wollongbar, Wardell and the Lennox Head areas.

Thanks to ongoing investment, our shire also has one of the most modern urban water cycles in Australia. Recently, this included an \$85 million upgrade of the Ballina and Lennox Head Wastewater Treatment Plants and the launch of our recycled water program.

For more information or water saving tips visit ballinawater.com.au





Charity shops welcome donations of goods... BUT NOT RUBBISH

Charity shops in the Ballina Shire provide an amazing service for our community by providing second hand goods at very reasonable prices.

Not only are these items priced to help people in need, but the proceeds from shops help disadvantaged people, families and charities.

Unfortunately some people are using the charity bins to dump their rubbish rather than take it to a waste facility. This means charity shop volunteers must employ a contractor to take the rubbish to the tip and they have to pay a fee for the service.

If you wouldn't wear it or use it, or it's broken – don't give it to a charity shop. And please don't leave your mattresses, broken furniture and rubbish next to the bins.

Say goodbye to disposable coffee cups

It is estimated Australians use 1 billion disposable coffee cups each year! But did you know they're not entirely recyclable?

The coating that's in most takeaway cups ends up in landfill. Northern Rivers is one of the few areas in Australia where coffee cups can be put in the recycling bin but the process isn't 100% perfect and involves physically separating the paper and the plastic coating – a timely and costly process!

The best alternative is to avoid the waste in the first place and use a reusable cup for your morning brew!

WAR ON WASTE : WHAT TO DO WITH SOFT PLASTICS



You may have recently watched the 'War on Waste' series with Craig Reucassel on ABC TV. The series tackled some major waste issues we are facing across Australia and how consumer consumption is producing excessive waste.

One key issue the series raised was how to handle plastic bags and other soft plastics such as glad wrap, breads bags and shopping bags.

The good news is within our shire soft plastics and recycled bags can be recycled but we need your help to make sure this happens. Our waste audits show almost 11% of the waste we collect is soft plastics, and at the moment only 1% is actually being recycled.

You can recycle soft plastics in Ballina Shire...but you need to follow these easy steps.

STEP 1: hang a plastic bag in your kitchen somewhere easy to reach.

STEP 2: fill it with all your other plastic bags and any clean soft plastics. Note: this excludes wrappers with a foil lining.

STEP 3: tie up the bag and put in your recycling bin (yellow lidded).

It's important to bag the plastic before it goes in the bin so the team at the Material Recycling Facility (MRF) can easily spot it and manually remove it. Any loose plastic jams the machinery, and is not collected for recycling. The success of recycling relies on everyone doing the right thing!

But remember, when it comes to recycling anything the better option is to up cycle and reuse! Bread bags make great freezer bags, jam jars are ideal for craft and fruit and vegetable trays are perfect to hold your homemade cake.

If you missed War on Waste, you may still be able to view on iView.

GIVE WASTE A SECOND CHANCE



MEET LAINEY...

A busy mother who juggles work, study, keeping fit and healthy and loves the community she lives in...Ballina Shire. Lainey wants to do the right thing for the environment and be responsible for the waste generated by her household. Lainey welcomes us into her home to show us how easy it is to use the Resource Recovery collection satchel.

Lainey regularly uses the satchels to get rid of waste such as batteries from kids' toys, old CDs, printer cartridges and more!

WHY USE THEM?

The satchels are used to take small but sometimes hazardous items out of the waste stream. Batteries are one of the most common forms of household hazardous waste as they leach toxic chemicals when landfilled. Putting these items in the wrong bin can contaminate the whole bin.

WHAT CAN YOU PUT IN THE SACHEL?

A whole range of items that need specialist recycling can be placed in your resource recovery satchel such as:



*Pop your batteries or printer cartridges in a plastic bag to keep your other recyclables clean. Many of these items can be specially recycled to retrieve metals and valuable resources. For example, X-Rays are heated under special conditions to retrieve silver!

HOW TO USE THE SACHEL?

Grab a satchel, fill it up and seal it, then place it in your recycling bin (yellow lid). Lainey shows us below how easy and convenient it is!

WHERE DOES IT GO?

Once the recyclables arrive for sorting and screening at the Lismore Materials Recycling Facility, they are hand removed from the conveyor belt for further sorting.

WHERE CAN YOU GET MORE SACHELS?

Satchels are available free of charge from the Ballina Shire Council Customer Service Centre, 40 Cherry Street, shire libraries in Alstonville, Ballina and Lennox Head and the Waste Management Centre on Southern Cross Drive. Keep a couple handy in your home.

1 GRAB A SACHEL



2 FILL IT UP AND SEAL IT



3 PLACE IN YOUR RECYCLING BIN

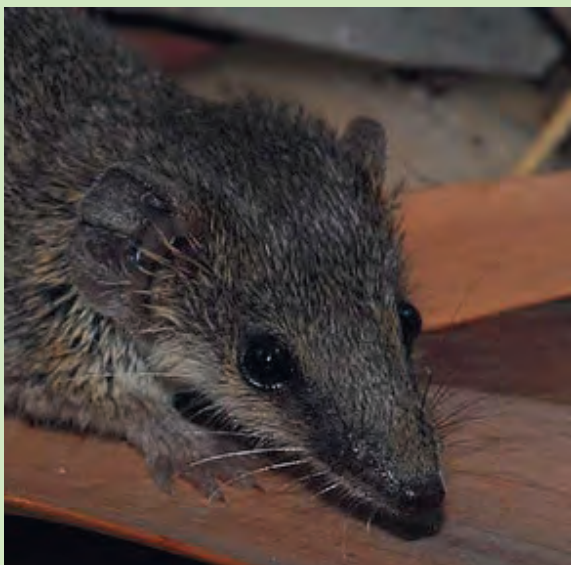


ANY QUESTIONS? Contact Ballina Shire Council, Ph: 02 6686 4444.

This initiative was funded by the NSW EPA under the Better Waste Recycling Fund.

threatened species and weed profile

Common planigale



What is that little creature in the grass over there? Should we get a mouse trap out? No, it's a planigale!

It's super cute, tiny, carnivorous and fierce. But what is a planigale? And why are we talking about it?

The planigale is a marsupial (as are wombats, kangaroos and koalas) with a body length of about 8cm and a tail as long again. They are larger than the common house mouse and have a long, pointed snout with sharp teeth and large rounded ears. They have grey-brown fur on top, sometimes with tiny whitespots. They normally eat insects, some almost as large as themselves, spiders, lizards and even other small rodents. Males can weigh up to 15 grams, with females close to 10 grams in size.

They have become vulnerable to extinction for a number of reasons including cats, dogs, cane toads, vegetation clearing and the introduction of stock.

In terms of their ecological function, planigales help to keep insect numbers in check and provide a food source for snakes and larger lizards.

random fact

Planigales can identify cane toads, using chemical cues to identify it. They therefore avoid eating cane toads altogether. If they do kill a cane toad (yuck!), they will eat it snout first to avoid the poisonous glands.



Wild Dog Information Evening

Are you a rural landholder and notice wild dogs on your property?

Ballina Shire Council together with the North Coast Local Land Service are offering an information session on wild dog control techniques on Wednesday 26 July 2017 at the Alstonville Plateau Bowling Club from 6pm to 8pm.

These information session will include a presentation on identifying wild dog signs and planning effective wild dog control programs. It will also include information from Ballina Shire Council on companion animal management (cats and dogs).

Registration is essential, contact North Coast Local Land Services on 1300 795 299 or for more information northcoast.lls.nsw.gov.au



Image courtesy: K Foster



customer feedback helps us improve service delivery

Do you have a suggestion, complaint or a compliment about our service? Don't be shy. We want your feedback.

Feedback helps Council to improve service delivery and determine if we are meeting or exceeding the expectations of our customers.

Please provide feedback by:

Email council@ballina.nsw.gov.au

Online feedback form ballina.nsw.gov.au

In person at the Customer Service Centre, 40 Cherry St Ballina.



Keeping the home fires burning safely...

There's something about a cosy wood fire on a cold night isn't there?

Unfortunately backyard burning or the incorrect use of internal wood fires can generate excessive smoke which can have an impact on air quality and your neighbours. Here we look at the requirements for backyard burning and tips on how to reduce smoke from your internal wood fire.



Improve Winter Air Quality by Using Your Wood Heater Correctly

Here we look at some of the ways you can reduce smoke from your wood fire.

- Always burn small logs of aged, dry hardwood. Unseasoned wood has more moisture which makes a heater smoke.
- Store wood under cover in a dry, ventilated area.
- Use plenty of dry kindling to establish a good fire quickly.
- Never burn rubbish, treated or painted wood as this can pollute the air and can be poisonous.
- Keep the flame lively and bright. Your fire should only smoke for a few minutes when you first light it and when you add extra fuel.
- Don't let your wood heater smoulder overnight. Keep enough air in the fire to maintain a flame.
- Check your chimney or flue regularly. If there is smoke coming from the chimney increase the air supply to your fire.

Check your heater complies with Australian Standard 4013:1999.

Backyard Burning Do you have a permit?

Council's Backyard Burning Policy aims to prevent air pollution and eliminate smoke and odour from inefficient backyard burning.

Restrictions apply to backyard burning in urban and closely settled areas such as Alstonville, Ballina, Cumbalum, Lennox Head, Wardell and Wollongbar, however some exceptions do apply. Maps showing restricted areas can be downloaded from Council's website.

Even with an exemption, obligations to prevent or minimise pollution and take into account the potential impacts on any person do apply. Breaches may lead to a penalty infringement notice of up to \$1,000.

During the Bush Fire Danger Period a fire permit may be required for fires lit in the open. There are other general requirements at other times of the year.

Further information:

Ballina Shire Council: phone 6686 4444, ballina.nsw.gov.au (search backyard burning)

Bush Fire Information Line - Rural Fire Service: 1800 NSW RFS (1800 679 737) rfs.nsw.gov.au



UPGRADE FOR LENNOX HEAD RESIDENTS

Major works have begun to upgrade the Byron Street wastewater pump station at Lennox Head. This upgrade will be critical for meeting future infrastructure demands in our growing community.

"For well over 20 years the pump station, on the corner of Byron Street and Daintree Drive, has silently and efficiently disposed of Lennox Head residents' wastewater," said Manager Water and Wastewater, Ms Bridget Walker.

"Now after many years of service, we've identified a need for it to be decommissioned and replaced with a completely new pump station," Ms Walker added.

The works are likely to cause minor traffic disruptions along Byron Street and the speed limit will be reduced during this time. The maintenance works are expected to finish by November 2017 (weather permitting).

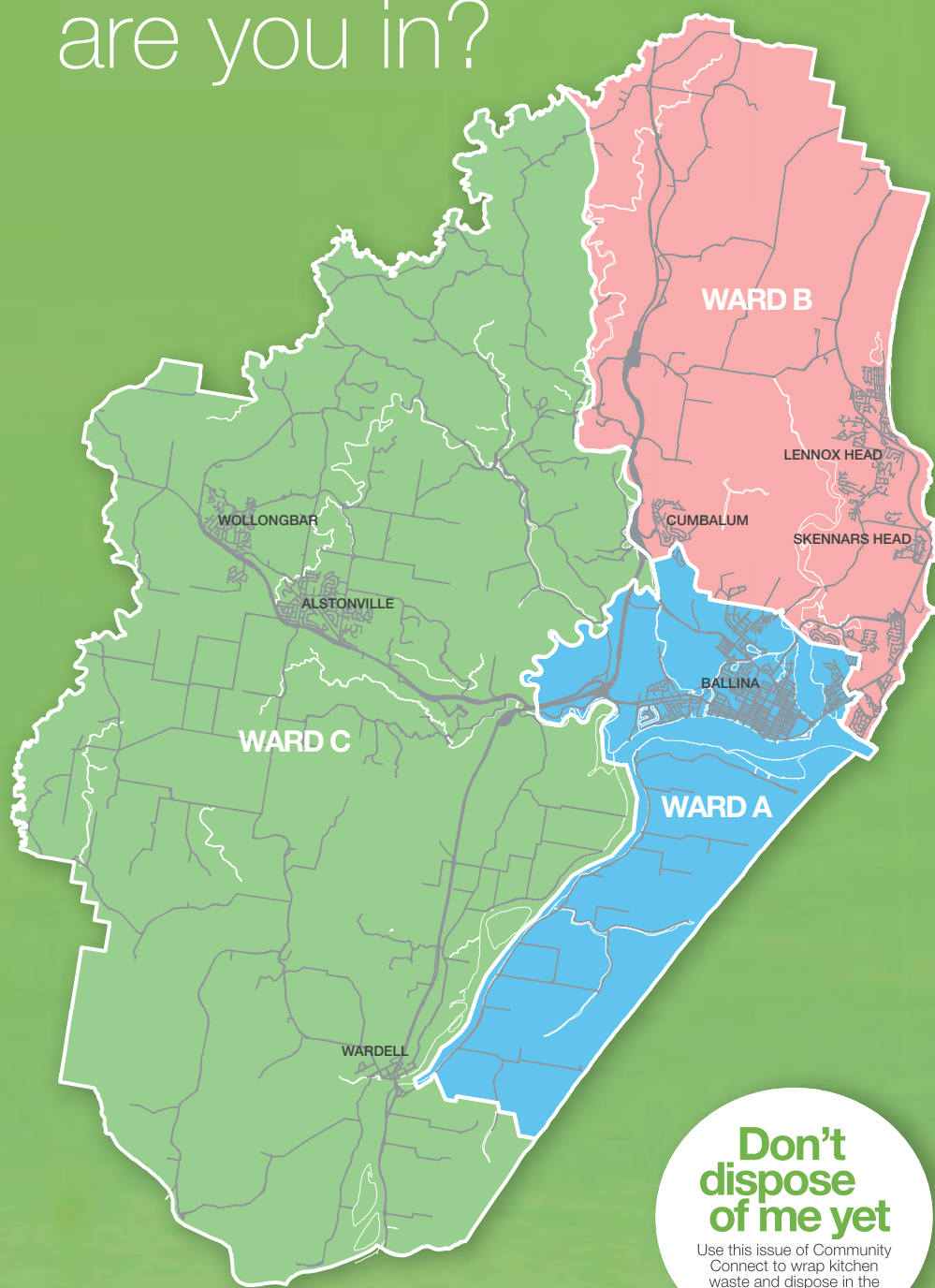
Behind the scenes Council proactively undertakes a program of capital works to upgrade civil infrastructure, such as pump stations, to ensure continuous operation and peace of mind for residents. Equipment age and population growth within our shire are key drivers for the upgrade of the Byron Street pump station.

For further information call Ballina Shire Council on 6686 4444.

Whilst the pump station is being upgraded, drainage works will be undertaken by extending the stormwater pipe. Residents will experience some disruption to water services, but will be notified with a water interruption card delivered to their letter box.

	Cr David Wright phone 0415 965 403 david.wright@ballina.nsw.gov.au	MAYOR
	Cr Phillip Meehan phone 0408 349 833 phil.meehan@ballina.nsw.gov.au	WARD A
	Cr Stephen McCarthy phone 0407 841 149 stephen.mccarthy@ballina.nsw.gov.au	
	Cr Nathan Willis phone 0434 154 782 nathan.willis@ballina.nsw.gov.au	
	Cr Sharon Cadwallader phone 0413 091 440 sharon.cadwallader@ballina.nsw.gov.au	WARD B
	Cr Keith Williams phone 0418 504 644 keith.williams@ballina.nsw.gov.au	
	Cr Jeff Johnson DEPUTY MAYOR phone 0407 651 948 jeff.johnson@ballina.nsw.gov.au	
	Cr Sharon Parry phone 0408 683 052 sharon.parry@ballina.nsw.gov.au	WARD C
	Cr Benjamin Smith phone 0415 482 412 ben.smith@ballina.nsw.gov.au	
	Cr Eoin Johnston phone 0407 416 149 eoin.johnston@ballina.nsw.gov.au	

what ward are you in?



**Don't
dispose
of me yet**

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

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.



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**

Photo contributors: Yvette Avard (cover image), Peter Dean, Tony Partridge, NSW Environment Protection Authority (EPA), Department of Primary Industries (DPI), Shannon Mackie Stills and Motion, and Peta-Lyn Dali.