

Kyogle Council Community Newsletter

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2016



Kyogle Council *Working together to balance Environment, Lifestyle and Opportunity.*

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Kyogle Council STANDS ALONE

Kyogle Council will continue to operate as a stand-alone council and will not be forced to amalgamate under the State Government's Fit For The Future local government reforms.

A total of 42 regional councils and 33 Sydney metropolitan councils have been earmarked for mergers under proposals announced on Friday 18 December by NSW Premier Mike Baird and NSW Local Government Minister Paul Toole.

However, Kyogle Council was not one of them even though amalgamation with either Lismore City Council or Richmond Valley Council had been identified as possible options for the council under Fit for the Future.

Kyogle Mayor Danielle Mulholland said the news was a relief for the community which had come out strongly against any merger.

She said the Council, which voted in November not to pursue a merger with either Lismore City or Richmond Valley councils, could now get back to business.

"Council can get back to the business of



Kyogle Council Chambers

growing the Kyogle LGA further without the threat of a forced amalgamation hanging over our head," Cr Mulholland said.

"We have a lot of exciting projects simmering on the backburner and now we have a result we can start progressing these."

As part of the Fit for the Future reforms announced on 18 December, the State Government will also press ahead with amendments to the Local Government Act which will initially:

- Increase the term of mayors elected by councillors from one to a minimum of two years;

- Place external audit of councils under the auspices of the Auditor General, and
- Ensure all councils have an odd number of Councillors to reduce deadlocks.

Subsequent phases in the legislative reform process will address recommendations arising from reviews being undertaken by IPART about the regulatory burden imposed on councils and the rating system.

The State Government also has engaged IPART to review the Local Government rating system and will work with the Grants Commission to redistribute Financial Assistance Grants to those Council's most in need (an action for which Kyogle Council has lobbied for some years).



From the
MAYOR



The State Government announced on Friday, 18 December, that Kyogle Council will continue to operate as a stand alone Council under its Fit for the Future Local Government reforms.

The announcement has been welcomed by the community and the Council which voted at its 9 November meeting not to pursue a merger with either Lismore City

Council or Richmond Valley Council.

We can now get back to the business of growing the Kyogle Local Government Area without the threat of a forced amalgamation hanging over our head.

The month before Christmas was extremely busy, with many community events and a trip to Sydney as part of a NOROC Mayoral delegation to speak to a raft of Ministers as organised by our local member, Thomas George. It was a fantastic opportunity for each Mayor to articulate the issues facing our LGAs and flag potential solutions to the relevant departments.

Woodenbong celebrated its Skate Park opening in style and Mallanganee Bankhouse Originals opened another exhibition which was well attended.

Bonalbo and Woodenbong Schools had their presentation events which are always a treat. Watching students as

they receive their prizes brings its own joy and the parents' pride as they see their children succeeding is just lovely.

Far North Coast Weeds Committee met in December, starting with an early breakfast with the weeds workers. A great opportunity to talk with field staff before heading off to our AGM where Robyn Hordern from Ballina Council was elected Chair and I was elected Deputy Chair.

The 16 days of activism included the Healthy Relations Day, which was around domestic violence and child protection. It was held at Grove House and was well attended. Discussions centred around the impacts of domestic violence, its effects on young people, families and individuals and how anyone can be a victim of DV.

The Kyogle Council Youth Advisory Committee partnered with a range of agencies to deliver the "Where's Your Head at Forum" which featured a presentation by Julie Rae from the Australian Drug Foundation on various drugs, their impacts, availability and people's susceptibility to them. It was a great day, with a bucking bull and photo booth for everyone to enjoy. And no, I did not get on the bucking bull.

I'd like to thank all the staff and Councillors for their hard work last year and I look forward to the challenges this year will no doubt bring.

Until next time

Danielle Mulholland



Above: Woodenbong Progress Association (WPA) Project Officer Carey Andrews, Kyogle Council Mayor Danielle Mulholland, WPA President Christine Reid, and Githabul elder Narrell Ord cut the cake at the official opening of the Woodenbong Skate Park and Outdoor Gym



Above: Woodenbong pre-school children took part in an tree planting ceremony after the official opening of the town's skate park and outdoor gym.



Above: Kyogle Councillor Maggie Creedy, on behalf of Member for Page Kevin Hogan, presented a special book prize to Collins Creek Public School student Jacklin Loccisono at the school's annual end of year variety and presentation night. The 10-year-old received the award for her dedication to learning.



TOONUMBAR

Dam access road to be UPGRADED

Kyogle Council's long held master plan to dramatically boost tourism, grow agribusiness and connect isolated communities by upgrading a section of gravel road known as the missing link is 7.5km closer to reality thanks to a \$997,639 Federal Government grant.

The National Stronger Regions Grant, announced on Monday by Page MP Kevin Hogan, will allow the Council to seal the 7.5km section of gravel road that until now has been the missing link between the sealed road network, Toonumbar Dam and the surrounding National Parks and State Forests.

Kyogle Council mayor Danielle Mulholland said the road in its current state was a major deterrent to people visiting Toonumbar Dam and had significantly impeded the growth of agricultural industries in the area.

"Toonumbar Dam and the Toonumbar Waters Retreat have incredible tourism potential that until now could not be fully realised because of the road," she said.

"Toonumbar is one of the few freshwater dams in the region that allows the use of recreational power boats and it's already well known for its fishing.

"The Toonumbar Water Retreat offers accommodation and conference facilities, a nine-hole golf course, a cricket oval, tennis courts, and fishing and boating



Kyogle Council believes that upgrading the Toonumbar Dam access road will dramatically increase tourism to the dam and surrounding national parks.

facilities.

"But the road puts people off going to the dam and surrounding National Parks - the operators of the retreat and our own tourist visitor information centre have been told repeatedly by people that they won't go to the dam again because of the road."

Upgrading the access road also will allow for the growth and diversification of agribusiness in the fertile farming areas around the dam which have been identified as a potential food bowl for the northern rivers and the expanding south-east Queensland region.

"Once again, the condition of the road network in that area has limited investment in agricultural and the potential to capitalise on the dam's unused water resource," Cr Mulholland said.

The "missing link" also joins an alternate route connecting Kyogle to Bonalbo,

which is almost 40km shorter than the journey via Casino.

"Upgrading this route will improve connectivity between the two communities and hopefully lead to more opportunities for people living in these areas," Cr Mulholland said.

Kyogle Council will contribute \$1,015,160 to the project, and an in-kind contribution worth \$62,480 from the operators of Toonumbar Waters Retreat will also provide for improvements to amenities at the Bells Bay camping area at the dam.

"Soon, thanks in part to Kevin Hogan's efforts in championing this project, everyone will be able to experience this unique facility and the area surrounding the dam will be able to develop emerging and niche agribusinesses," Cr Mulholland said.

Rates notices now ONLINE

With more and more people using digital technology these days, Kyogle Council is offering ratepayers the opportunity to receive their rates notice online.

There are three ways ratepayers can "sign" up for a digital rates notice.

The first is via BPAY View. Simply log on to your internet banking service, look for the BPAY View or View Bills section and register to receive your next notice delivered straight to your internet banking service.

You can also have your digital rates notice delivered to your mypost account.

To sign up to mypost online with Australia Post, go to digi-

talmailbox.com.au, enter your details, verify your account and link Kyogle Council to receive your next rates notice delivered to your mypost account.

Payments can also be made using this service.

Ratepayers also can elect to receive their rates notice online through Formsport.

This can be done by scanning the QR code printed on

your notice or going online to

kyogle.form

sport.com.au

and registering your details.

Your notice will be delivered to your nominated email address.

Payments also can be made using this service. Should you require further information, call Council on 6632 1611.

ONLINE
SERVICE



Kyogle LGA celebrates **AUSTRALIA DAY 2016**



Woodenbong Australia Day ambassador Benita Collings.



West of the Range Australia Day ambassador Ron Delezio



Kyogle Australia Day ambassador Morgan Kasmarik.

Australia Day will be celebrated throughout the Kyogle Council area on Tuesday, 26 January, with official events being held at Kyogle, Woodenbong and Tabulam.

Organisers of the three events have issued an open invitation to Everybody - Everywhere (the theme of Australia Day 2016) to come together to celebrate what's great about Australia and being Australian.

Kyogle

The Kyogle Australia Day festivities will be held at the Kyogle Memorial Hall and will get underway at 9am with the Kyogle Lions Club serving up a free traditional Aussie morning tea of billy tea and damper.

Entertainment will be provided by the Kyogle Town Band.

The official ceremony will start at 10am and will include the presentation of the Australia Day Awards, and performances by bush poet Paddy O'Brien and local bands the Primmadonnas and Danny Hampton's Band.

Australia Day Ambassador Morgan Kasmarik, who is a sports reporter and presenter on Sky News, will deliver the Australia Day address.

A free lunch, courtesy of the Kyogle Quota Club, will be served at the conclusion of the ceremony.

The festivities will conclude with the screening of the Australian movie, *The Lion*, at the Kyogle Community Cinema. Admission is free.

Woodenbong

Australia Day celebrations at Woodenbong will begin bright and early with billy tea and damper from 8.30am at the Woodenbong Hall courtesy of the RSL.

A flag raising ceremony will be held at the front of the hall at 10am, with the official proceedings set to start at 10.30am and to include an address by Australia Day ambassador and well-known Australian actress Benita Collings and the presentation of the Australia Day Awards.

After the ceremony a free lunch will be served and the annual city versus country cricket match will be held at the recreation grounds behind the swimming pool at 1.30pm.

Prior to the start of the cricket match, a free professional cricket coaching clinic will be held for school-aged boys and girls. It will run from 12.30-1.30pm.

To take part, children need to wear shoes and socks, a hat and sunscreen and

be at the recreation grounds by 12.15pm.

There will also be a raffle of a signed cricket bat, with the proceeds going to the Woodenbong Rural Fire Brigade and the Woodenbong Public Hall.

Tabulam

The 2016 West of the Range Australia Day festivities will be held at the Tabulam Race Course and will kick off at 10am.

The program this year includes a series of 20 minute shows by local stunt motorcyclist Brodie Carmichael and his Aussie FMX team.

There will also be rides and activities for youngsters, market stalls (stall holders can just come along on the day), live music, and the Toss The Bull and Tug'O War competitions, both of which will offer prizemoney to the winners.

The official ceremony will start about 1pm and will feature the presentation of the Australia Day Awards and an address by Australia Day ambassador Ron Delezio who is the co-founder and co-director of the Day of Difference Foundation. The foundation aims to reduce the incidence and impact of children being critically injured.

There will be an all-day barbecue and a tea and coffee stand at the festivities.



CHEMICALS cause problems at CRC

Household and farm chemicals should not be left at the recently opened Community Recycling Centre at the Kyogle waste facility.

The CRC is not able to handle these chemicals — a fact highlighted by a recent chemical spill at the centre.

The spill was appropriately contained and cleaned up, but the work cost Council a considerable amount of money.

People wanting to dispose of household and farm chemicals are asked to wait for the next council-organised chemical clean out day.

For the past couple of years Council has held chemical clean-out days where residents can safely and appropriately dispose of household quantities of chemicals for free.

Another chemical clean-out day is scheduled for mid-February 2016.

Council will promote the day further when a date is confirmed.

Meanwhile, people can drop off paint, car batteries, household batteries, motor oils, other oils, gas bottles and fire extinguishers, smoke detectors and fluoro globes and tubes for free at the CRC.

For further information please contact Council's Planning and Environment Department on 6632 0293.



A Kyogle Council staff member suits up to contain a chemical spill which occurred at the Community Recycling Centre at the Kyogle landfill.

ART OF GIFT GIVING focus of Roxy Gallery exhibition

Art lovers wanting to bag a bargain have until the end of January to get along to the Roxy Gallery's annual affordable arts exhibition.

"MarkArt" provides a vehicle for both professional and emerging artists to get their works into the public domain as items for purchase as gifts.

The exhibition runs until January 30.

It features a vibrant collection of works that encapsulates a range of skills and techniques from many local artists.

In line with the aim of the exhibition, works purchased during this exhibition can be taken from the gallery prior to the completion of the show.



ROTARY

LIONS



QUOTA



CLEARING SALE

Saturday 2nd April 2016 10am

Kyogle Showground

Multi Vendor Sale

Selling everything from
1 x Box to Farm Equipment
Cattle

Conditions of sale
10% under \$2,500
5% over \$2,500

Reg: Bidder Card
Payment on sale
by cash
or cheque

All proceeds going towards
fitness equipment throughout
Kyogle's walking paths

www.kyoglerealestate.com

All items booked a week in advance
Catering by Kyogle Showground Trust

Contacts

John 0427 145 905
Mark 0412 704 191
Peter 0401 754 411

Elaine 6632 1672
Carol 6632 1190
Rhonda 6632 3255

Proudly supported by Gloprint Services 6632 1174



GREEN WASTE DROP-OFF area at Kyogle landfill to be upgraded

An improved drop-off area for green waste will be built at the Kyogle waste facility this year.

The current, temporary drop-off area was established to comply with new NSW Environment Protection Authority requirements after Kyogle Council opened its weighbridge and Community Recycling Centre.

Council's Environmental Health Officer David Bell said Council was aware the temporary drop-off area was not ideal, especially for vehicles towing trailers.

"An improved drop-off area is going to be constructed this year," he said.

Meanwhile, NSW EPA requirements mean that mulch must now be 'pasteurised' before it can be taken off site. Council worked throughout 2015 on finding practical solutions to the mulch issue.

One of those solutions was to use the unpasteurised material for closure of the Woodenbong landfill -- it will be replaced with a new waste transfer station.

The mulch at the Kyogle Waste Facility is currently unable to be sold to the community. However, Council is actively pursuing a means of providing good quality mulch to the public again.

For further information please contact Council's Planning and Environment Department on 6632 0293.



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Free asbestos kits again available from Kyogle Council

Kyogle Council and North East Waste recently secured NSW EPA funding to purchase more household asbestos disposal kits.

The kits are free for Kyogle Local Government Area residents and include equipment to assist with the safe removal of household quantities (ie less than 10m²) of bonded asbestos.

One kit is available per household.

Please note that once you have appropriately and securely wrapped and taped your asbestos in the plastic bags provided with the kit, you must call the Kyogle landfill on 6632

3002 at least 24 hours before delivering it to the site to allow for proper handling and disposal.

Please also be aware that fees apply for disposal of asbestos.

Residents are reminded that removal of more than 10m² of asbestos must be carried out by a SafeWork NSW (formerly WorkCover NSW) licensed removalist.

For further information about the free kits and the safe disposal of asbestos materials, please contact Council's Planning and Environment Department on 6632 0293.



Kyogle Library NEWS

The following groups meet at the Kyogle library, are free and welcome new members.

Kyogle Literary Group meets on the first Saturday of the month from 10.30am-noon. The group's next meeting is on 6 February.

Kyogle Reader's Group meets on the second Tuesday of each month from 1.30-3.00pm. The group's next meeting is on 9 February.

Meeting place

Does your group need a place to meet that is centrally located, with easy parking, is fully air-conditioned and has access to free Wi-Fi?

Would your group like to meet for free at Kyogle library in 2016?

Kyogle library staff

are currently taking regular and one-off bookings for meetings in 2016. Contact the library on 6632 1134.

Colouring in for adults

The Colouring-in for Adults group meets at the Kyogle Library on the fourth Wednesday and second Friday of each month at 10am for 10.30-11.30am.

Colouring is not only fun, it is relaxing, sparks creativity and promotes mindfulness. Contact Kyogle library staff on 6632 1134 for details.



Global Cafe

Women in Leadership Global Café will meet at the Kyogle library on

Monday, 15 February, from 10.30am-noon.

New members are welcome. For further details contact the library or simply come along on the day.

Book group

Kyogle Library Book Discussion Group meets on the third Tuesday of the month at 10am for 10.30-11.30am.

The group provides an informal, friendly environment for people to chat about the book they are reading.

To join, stop by the library or phone 6632 1134 for further information.

Public holiday

Kyogle library will be closed for the Australia Day public holiday on Tuesday, 26 January, 2016 and will re-open at 10am Wednesday, 27 January, 2016.

KYOGLE LIBRARY



Kyogle Community Cinema

26 Bloore St, Kyogle 2474

TICKETS \$14 U12 / PENSION \$12

NOW SCREENING/COMING SOON

The Peanuts Movie
Joy
Suffragette
The Revenant
The Hateful 8
The Big Short
Spotlight

For more Movies and Session Times
Log On To Our Website
kyoglecommunitycinema.com.au

MOVIELINE:
★ 66 321 888 ★

Community event CALENDAR

Kyogle Farmers Market

The Kyogle Farmers Market is held on Saturday mornings in Stratheden Street, Kyogle (between the Summerland Way and the library). To book a stall phone Rupert on 0403 628 292 or Anne on 6632 1851.

Quilt Exhibition

A Quilt Exhibition will be held in the Kyogle Seniors Centre over two days in March.

Run by the Kyogle and District Patchwork and Quilters, the exhibition will be held at the Kyogle Seniors Centre on

Saturday, 5 March, from 9am-5pm and Sunday, 6 March, from 9am-3pm.

The exhibition will feature a range of quilts as well as scrap booking, place-mats, table runners, dolls, knitting and crochet.

Admission to the exhibition will cost \$5 for adults and \$2 for children and includes a complementary cup of tea or coffee.

All proceeds from the event will be donated to Kyogle Quota.

Author visits library

Australian author Jenn McLeod, popular for her rural sagas, will give a talk at the Kyogle library on Thursday, 21 January, at 10am.

The event is free and open to anyone

interested in attending.

A free morning tea will be served after the talk,

For further information and to book a seat, call into the library at Stratheden Street, Kyogle, or phone 6632 1134.

Trip to bison farm

Kyogle district men are welcome to join the Care Connections outing to Aranyani Bison Park followed by lunch at the Rappville Pub on Friday, 22 January.

Cost is \$15 and includes the bus and morning tea. Entry to the park and lunch at own expense. To book, phone 6632 2194.

Upcoming EVENTS

Paddock tree dieback on the increase

Many paddock eucalypts are looking sad and sorry, stripped of their leaves by the pre-Christmas increase in beetles and insects.

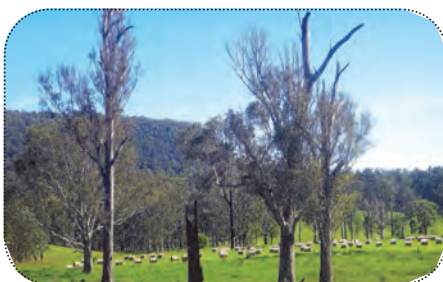
Although an annual cycle, observation is that the severity of insect attack is increasing. With a summer reduction in insect numbers and gradual tree recovery, we barely notice that each year more trees fail to recover and die.

Dieback of paddock trees took off in the New England in the late 1970s, resulting in the eventual death of most large eucalypts. A similar experience is now happening in many areas of the North Coast.

These old paddock trees are essential to stock for shade and shelter, and native wildlife for habitat and connections across the cleared farm land.

The causes of the cycle of annual defoliation and eventual death are many.

A reduced number of native insect eat-



Above: Dieback in paddock eucalypts.

ing birds and micro bats is one factor.

Insect eaters help keep the natural balance, and their positive effect is seen where isolated paddock trees close to good bushland are least affected.

A change in soils within a grazing situation is another contributing factor. Where cattle regularly camp for shelter, soil is compacted, stressing the trees.

Animal manures increase soil nutrient levels at the same time. Insects are particularly attracted to trees with high nutrient levels in their leaves.

Maintaining good bushland with a variety of native species and understorey to support the insect eaters can help. This

can be along the creek, or in a paddock.

A regrowth management plan also is crucial to retain trees in agricultural areas.

In some instances, natural regrowth occurs readily, and deciding on what is allowed to grow, where, and why offers a great opportunity for farm sustainability.

Aim for a variety of species of different ages, and where possible try to establish a level of connection with natural areas.

In some areas, natural regeneration may need to be stimulated by removing stock for a short period and seeking advice on copying natural processes such as burning or lightly disturbing the soil.

Sadly, without planning and active management, the stresses of life as a tree, will eventually mean all our paddock trees will die. Without a healthy number of trees of varying ages coming on to take their place, we will suffer as will our children, livestock, wildlife, water tables, streams, and soils. Contact Upper Clarence Combined Landcare on 6665 3133, or Northern Landcare Support Services on 6632 3722 for advice and assistance.

Council Meetings

Council Meetings: The next Ordinary Council meeting will be held on Monday, 8 February, 2016, at 5pm. Ordinary meetings are held on the second Monday of every month except January. Meetings start at 5pm and are held at the Kyogle Council Chambers, 1 Stratheden Street, Kyogle.

The first item of general business is Question Time which provides an opportunity for the public to ask questions of Councillors and senior staff. To speak to Council on a specific issue during the meeting, apply in writing to the General Manager prior to the close of business on the day preceding the meeting for public access.

REGIONAL ROADS INFORMATION

www.myroadinfo.com.au

RECYCLING FACILITIES

All of Council's waste facilities have recycling capabilities (if separated) and can recover oil, paper, cardboard, steel, aluminium, glass, and plastic at no charge.

The waste facility hours of operation are:

Kyogle: 7.30am-12pm Monday to Friday

9am-4pm Saturday & Sunday

Woodenbong: Tuesday & Saturday 9am-4pm

Bonalbo: Wednesday & Saturday 9am-4pm

Mallanganee: Thursday & Sunday 9am-4pm

Council
CONTACT



A WARD

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Cr Janet Wilson

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B WARD

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Cr Maggie Creedy

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Cr Robert Dwyer

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Cr Michael Reardon

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KYOGLE COUNCIL
HOURS 8.30AM-4PM
MONDAY TO FRIDAY

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