Council delivers major infrastructure projects

A host of infrastructure projects worth millions of dollars have Kyogle Council work crews working flat out across the local government area.

Projects range from road and bridge upgrades to greening Kyogle's main street and a new toilet block at Toonumbar Dam's Bells Bay Camp Ground.

Kyogle Council Mayor Cr Danielle Mulholland said Council was gratified at the number and scope of projects it was delivering across the LGA.

“We have had some successes in applying for funding from the State and Federal governments and this kind of investment recognises the work Kyogle Council has been doing in terms of lobbying and delivering real outcomes in our communities,” she said.

“Kyogle Council has been delivering on a very ambitious works program and the staff has done exceptionally well to keep these projects rolling out.”

So far this month, Council has:

- opened the new Somerville Bridge on Ettrick Road;
- completed the initial seal of Lillian Rock Road from Gabal Road to the Lismore City Council boundary;
- finalised work on the new Bells Bay amenities;
- added the finishing touches to a project which saw the installation of four new outdoor gyms in Kyogle, a new fence at Anzac Park playground, additions to the Kyogle Skatepark, as well as the installation of a disabled toilet at the netball courts.

Other major infrastructure projects currently being undertaken by Kyogle Council include:

- construction of a new steel truss bridge at Afterlee to replace an old load-limited...
Six-year-old Charlotte Sims is proof that there are benefits to being at the right place at the right time. The Kyogle Public School student who lives nearby was asked by Kyogle Council Mayor Cr Danielle Mulholland and Member for Page Kevin Hogan to cut the ribbon to officially open the new Somerville Bridge on Ettrick Road on Monday 30 July. She was selected to do the honours as the youngest person present at the opening.

Unfortunately, the first street library made by Brian, one of our volunteers from the Visitor Information Centre, literally fell off the back of a truck. Fortunately, Dave Tucker worked his magic and the street library was launched at a ceremony attended by Cr Earle Grundy.

Council intends to roll out the street libraries across the Council area to promote literacy and provide a point of interest for tourists and community members alike. The Woodenbong street library is currently being made - it will have a Yowie theme. We have had a couple of exciting announcements in Bonalbo with the RSL getting funding for a park fence and the Showgrounds getting a pavilion and new amenities from Federal grant programs.

We completed another bridge on Ettrick Road which brings our total down to 150 bridges left to replace. In 2017/18, Council replaced 17 bridges.

We have been very fortunate in attracting funding from both State and Federal governments and hope to continue this trend until we can focus on upgrading or enhancing infrastructure, rather than replacing it.

A multi-million dollar advertisement was recently filmed in and around Kyogle, providing us with an opportunity to showcase our beautiful region nationally. A launch of the ad is expected around October so more details will be forthcoming then.

Many thanks to the staff who worked over the weekend to make this happen - it was a great success. Until next time, Cr Danielle Mulholland

Charlotte opens new bridge

Charlotte opens new bridge

Six-year-old Charlotte Sims is proof that there are benefits to being at the right place at the right time.

The Kyogle Public School student who lives nearby was asked by Kyogle Council Mayor Cr Danielle Mulholland and Member for Page Kevin Hogan to cut the ribbon to officially open the new Somerville Bridge on Ettrick Road on Monday 30 July.

She was selected to do the honours as the youngest person present at the opening.

Funded in part by an election promise from Mr Hogan, the new two-lane steel truss bridge was built by Council’s bridge crew with the help of piling and concreting sub-contractors.

It replaces an old timber bridge that carried a 20-tonne load limit. The new bridge cost $460,000 and was funded on a 50/50 basis by Council and the Federal Government through the Land Transport Infrastructure Projects.

Construction took less than eight weeks to complete, with work starting in April and finished by mid-June.

Cr Mulholland said the replacement of the bridge would enable producers to get their cattle and other products to market, while giving emergency and heavier vehicles improved access.

“Council is committed to improving our road and bridge network and this bridge is the latest in a very ambitious works program,” she said.

Labyrinth pavers must be ordered soon

Work is expected to start soon on the Kyogle labyrinth, with the Friends of the Labyrinth to submit the order for engraved pavers on 21 September.

Community members who have pledged to buy an engraved paver are asked to put their order in as soon as possible. Similarly, anyone who hasn’t put in a pledge or an order for an engraved paver can still do so up until 21 September.

Forms and information are available at Kyogle library, Gateway Office Supplies and PRD Real Estate.

The cost is $20 for a name-only paver and $25 for a paver etched with a hand-drawn design.

The labyrinth will be built by Council and volunteers in Alcorn Park, Kyogle.
WORK STARTS ON $24M Mount Lindesay Road upgrade

Work has started on a $24 million upgrade of the Legume to Woodenbong section of the Mt Lindesay Road.

Federal Member for New England, Barnaby Joyce, State Member for Lismore, Thomas George, and Tenterfield Shire Council Mayor Peter Petty collectively turned the first sod of this major infrastructure project.

Long-time advocate for the road upgrade and member of the Legume to Woodenbong Road Alliance Kyogle Councillor Lindsay Passfield and Chair of the Alliance Councillor Neil Meikeljohn of Southern Downs Regional Council also attended the sod turning.

Already, Woodenbong contractor MJ Smith Ground Preparation Pty Ltd has started work on the first section of the project - a 2.4km of road known as the Dalman North Section.

This notoriously difficult section of the Mt Lindesay Road has long been the nightmare of freight transport, school bus drivers, tourists and the many locals who travel the road on a daily basis.

Lobbying for the upgrade for the Northern Growth Corridor has been in the pipeline since the late 1990s, with the formation of the Downs to Rivers Action Committee (DTRAC) which then evolved into the Legume to Woodenbong Road Alliance in February 2014.

In announcing the start of $24 million upgrade, Tenterfield Shire Council Mayor Peter Petty thanked the members of DTRAC and the Alliance, some of whom have since passed on including the late Jack Hurley of Kyogle and the late Les Watson of Woodenbong.

“This celebration today heralds a new era for this region of our Shire”, said Cr Petty.

Meeting to decide future of AFTERLEE HALL

The future of the Afterlee Hall will be decided at a special community meeting to be held on Sunday 2 September.

The meeting has been called by the Afterlee Hall Committee and will be held in the Afterlee School grounds starting at 10am.

The hall was built by community in the 1920s on private land by volunteer labour using donated timber.

The land on which the hall sits has been sold and the community now needs to decide the fate of the building which has not been used or maintained for more than three years.

Hall Committee President Wendy Carter said options to be put to the community would include:

- Selling the building to the current land owner and deciding where all funds should be dispersed.
- Calling tenders for the demolition of the building and selling off the hall’s internal assets.
- Relocating the building to another site.

“We are asking people to please attend this meeting with a solution in mind to help decide what is in the best interest of the Afterlee community,” Mrs Carter said.

“A democratic vote system will be used.

“A resolution must be reached at the request of the land owner.”

Council work crews kept busy

From Page 1

timber bridge (expected to be open to traffic at the end of August);
- construction of a new steel truss bridge on Williams Road to replace Andrews Bridge, an old load-limited timber bridge (expected to be open to traffic end of August/early September);
- construction of a new concrete bridge on Lynches Creek Road to replace Campbells No 2 Bridge (expected to be completed in October);
- the upgrade of 4.2km of Culmarran Creek road and construction of a new bridge;
- greening Kyogle's main street which involves installation of new seat/planter boxes, replanting main street garden beds with native trees and plants and planting large street trees in the centre parking aisle (expected to be completed in September);
- Rehabilitation of sections of Summerland Way near Glen Road between Grevillia and Woodenbong is continuing (expected to be completed by the end of the year);
- Revitalisation of the Kyogle Memorial Institute, stage one, (expected to be completed by the end of the year).

Over the next few months, Council also will start work on:

- Construction of a new concrete bridge to replace Campbells No 1 Bridge on Lynches Creek Road;
- Construction of a new bridge steel truss bridge to replace Marr Bridge on Williams Road;
- Construction of the Kyogle labyrinth (expected to be completed by the end of the year);
- Construction of the Kyogle amphitheatre stage.

Bush fire danger period now in force for Kyogle LGA

The Bush Fire Danger Period for the Northern Rivers has officially started.

It was brought forward by a month in response to the current extreme dry conditions.

The early start to the Bush Fire Danger Period means that landholders in the Kyogle, Richmond Valley and Lismore local government areas will have to obtain a fire permit before burning off or lighting fires.

Fire permits are free and can be obtained from your local rural fire brigade. Phone 6663 0000 for further details.

A spokesperson for the Rural Fire Service said given the current conditions, permits at this time would only be issued for activities that were well prepared and had good containment lines.
St Brigid Primary School students prepare trees for planting as part of Planet Ark’s Schools Tree Planting Day.

Students join forces with Council TO PLANT 150 TREES

St Brigid’s Primary School and Kyogle Council have again combined to plant 150 trees as part of Planet Ark’s Schools Tree Planting Day on Friday 27 July.

Kyogle Council dug the holes for the students to plant the 150 trees alongside the Richmond River, behind the Kyogle Bowling Club and just along from where 200 trees were planted last year.

The trees were donated by Southern Cross University’s Koala Nursery and were a mixture of lemon, scented and spotted gums.

The trees will rehabilitate the area and provide a habitat for sugar gliders that are known to populate the area.

Students enjoyed the tree planting which also created awareness about the importance of the environment and the community.

Work starts on Kyogle SEWER UPGRADE

Work to upgrade Kyogle’s sewer system will be carried out from July through to October.

The work is in line with Kyogle Council’s Asset Management Strategy which aims to eliminate Council’s sewer renewal backlog.

It will include:
- Sewer dig-ups/repairs
- Sewer main relining
- Sewer main construction, and
- Maintenance hole construction

All residents should be aware that Council staff and contractors will be undertaking these works at locations around Kyogle.

Residents who live near a sewer manhole or have a sewer manhole in their backyard should also be aware that Council may need access to it.

Further information will be given to specific residents closer to the date of access.

Please contact Council’s Assets and Infrastructure Services Department on 6632 0221 for further information.

NAIDOC celebrated at Bonalbo

The invaluable contributions of local indigenous women to the community were acknowledged at NAIDOC celebrations held recently at Bonalbo Central School.

In keeping with this year’s NAIDOC theme, Because of Her, We Can, the celebrations paid tribute to the many women who provide support, guidance, and leadership across the community.

The day was opened with an official Welcome to Country by local Elder ‘Poppy’ Harry Walker. Traditional dancers from Casino High School and Lismore High School together with the Bonalbo Central School Band and singers from the primary school entertained guests.

A host of stalls operated on the day including traditional craft, basket weaving, beading, boomerang decorating, face painting, colouring-in, gifts, damper making and biscuit decorating.

Those attending could also browse a range of information stalls set up by organisations including The Buttery, NSW Health, ACE Community College, Rural Fire Service, Solid Mob, Headspace, Red Cross, Social Futures, AMS, Southern Cross University, Social Futures and Sydney University.


One of the displays at Bonalbo Central School’s NAIDOC celebrations honouring local indigenous women.
COUNCIL
grants on offer

Applications for grants under Kyogle Council’s Community Assistance Fund have now opened.

The Community Assistance Fund provides one-off donations of up to $1,000 for organisations, $500 for individuals and $5,000 for projects with matched funding.

Funding preference is given to those individuals/organisations that can demonstrate the greatest need or benefit to the wider community in the following areas: welfare; community involvement/social interaction; sport and recreation; the Arts; youth affairs; senior citizen affairs; cultural assistance.

Community Assistance grants are paid on a reimbursement basis in that successful applicants must provide Council with receipts and/or invoices before any funds are paid.

Applications will close at 4pm on Friday 28 September. The Council will determine the successful grant applications at its November meeting.

Application forms and further information are available from the Kyogle Council administration centre, 1 Stratheden Street, Kyogle, or www.kyogle.nsw.gov.au.

Kyogle SES needs new members

The Kyogle State Emergency Service (SES) unit is looking for new members.

Kyogle SES Unit Controller, Brian Hoffman, has put out the call for anyone in the Kyogle area to consider joining the Unit.

“We need your skills and your energy,” Brian said.

“Even if you can’t commit the time for full training, there are many roles you could help with when an emergency hits our community.

“It might be helping with IT, communications, organisation of resources and people, community engagement, logistics, or catering to keep front line workers on the go.”

SES members can undertake a range of training options where they learn new skills which can be used in their jobs or in everyday life.

The nationally accredited training covers everything from first aid to storm damage, chain saw operation to vertical rescue and road crash rescue skills.

“Kyogle SES is also the primary rescue unit for our area, therefore this last training option is vital for the Unit and for the Kyogle community as a whole, Mr Hoffman said.

“Of course, all SES members are fully insured and the emphasis is on safety, all of the time.

“Joining the Kyogle SES will make you new friends while you give back to the community.”

For further information, call Bob Kilpatrick on 0418 278 427, or drop into the SES shed, Ettrick Street, Kyogle at 7pm on Mondays.

BreastScreen returns to Kyogle at the end of August

The BreastScreen NSW North Coast mobile unit will be returning to Kyogle for a three week visit from 29 August until 13 September 2018.

Appointments are now open for booking.

Statistics show that 9 in 10 women diagnosed with breast cancer do not have a family history of the disease. With early detection the key to successful treatment – a free mammogram every two years could save your life.

The BreastScreen NSW program recommends women aged 50 to 74 have a mammogram every two years, however all women over 40 are eligible for free screening mammogram.

All women aged 40+ living in Kyogle and surrounding areas are urged to call 13 20 50 and make a screening appointment.

A GP referral is not necessary and appointments take only 20 minutes.

The BreastScreen program on the North Coast also offers free screening appointments all year round at its fixed sites located at Tweed Heads and Lismore.
Pools to re-open on Wednesday 26 September

Kyogle Council’s three public swimming pools will re-open for the 2018-2019 season on Wednesday 26 September.

Opening days and hours for the Kyogle, Bonalbo and Woodenbong pools will remain the same as last year.

Kyogle pool will open Monday to Thursday from 6.30am to 6pm, Friday from 6.30am to 7.30pm (6-7.30pm exclusive use of the main pool by Kyogle Swim Club), and weekends and public holidays from 10am to 6pm.

The Bonalbo pool’s opening hours will be Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday and public holidays from 2pm to 6pm. It will be closed on Tuesdays.

The Woodenbong pool will open Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday and public holidays from 2pm to 6pm. It will be closed on Thursdays.

Admission costs to the three pools remain that same as last season - $4 for adults, $3 for children, students and pensioners.

As in past years, various season and half season passes can also be purchased for all three pools, with the council this year also introducing a holiday (all school and public holidays) season pass which will cost the same as a half season pass.

Season pass holders are reminded that you must have your pass with you on entering the pool or you will be required to pay normal admission costs.


At this stage, the pools will close on 29 April 2019.

NATURE

in the spotlight

The works of three local women – Julie Allen, Evelyn O’Neil, and Barbara Murray – are featured in the current exhibition at the Roxy Gallery, Kyogle.

Titled Triple Trio in Nature, the exhibition runs until 1 September.

Julie Allen, Evelyn O’Neil, and Barbara Murray are known for their oil paintings and water colours and their works in this exhibition feature the native fauna and flora of the area, including the local bird life.

So much so, that it has been described as a pictorial walk through the environment.

The next exhibition at the Roxy Gallery will be a group show of works by members of the Lismore Over 50s.

Meanwhile, all practising artists and artisans are reminded that the Roxy Gallery's end-of-year annual open-to-all exhibition is fast approaching.

Artists and artisans interested in being involved should start organising their artwork as expressions of interest forms will be available in mid-October.

LOCALS ASKED TO JOIN

Health Information Feedback group

The Northern NSW Health Literacy Project is looking for local people to be part of the Health Information Feedback Group.

The project is seeking feedback from people and carers using health services and wants to know how well health information is conveyed.

It aims to improve people’s health literacy and how health services communicate. Health Literacy is a person’s ability to access, understand and act on health information and use health services; it allows people to make the best health decisions for themselves.

In particular, the project is looking for people to be part of the feedback group who:

- Use health services (health consumers), and their carers,
- Have long-term health issues like diabetes or heart problems, or
- Are interested in how health services and professionals communicate

Members of the group will decide themselves how much or how little they do.

For further information, contact the Health Literacy Project Officer by email at healthliteracy@ncahs.health.nsw.gov.au, by phone on 0431 939 848 or ordinary mail to Health Literacy Project Officer, Health Promotion, Locked Mail Bag 498, Lismore, NSW, 2480.
What's happening at Kyogle Library

Writers on the Road

More than 40 people gathered in the Kyogle library on 27 July to take part in the Byron Writers Festival 'Writers on the Road' event.

Three published writers Sarah Armstrong, Kari Gislason and Jesse Oliver along with MC Zacharey Jane entertained the crowd with their experiences as writers, while providing invaluable advice to budding authors.

They also read aloud sections of their latest books, and the articulate Jesse Oliver gave the crowd a taste of the energy involved in slam poetry. This great opportunity was encouraged by the Kyogle Writers Group and Kyogle library.

The writers also went to Bonalbo on 30 July to share their stories of what it is like being a writer, how they generate their story ideas, and the issues they face getting their works published.

Library marks 40th birthday

The Richmond-Upper Clarence Regional Library is celebrating its 40th birthday this year.

It would be great if all library users would join in the celebrations by taking part in the Guess the Decade competition.

Each RUCRL library is sporting a decades display each month.

To enter, simply call into Kyogle library check out the cool display each month and guess the decade it shows.

The first correct entry drawn will win a box of chocolates.

The competition began this month, so there is still time to enter and win!

A day for chocoholics!

Thursday, 13 September, is International Chocolate Day and Kyogle library will be celebrating all week with a number of chocolate themed programs.

There will be chocolate themed Pizza & Pages and Lego Club on Thursday 13 September, a chocolate themed Adult Colouring-in Friday 14 September and more.

All welcome to join-in the chocolatey week of celebrations.

Create, make, share

A Create Make Share session will be held at Kyogle library on Tuesday 11 September from 10.30am.

Bookings are essential, phone the library on 6632 1134.

Community Calendar

Charity golf day

A charity golf day will be held at the Tabulam Golf Course on Sunday 2 September to celebrate Father's Day.

Funds raised will go to support three local rural fire brigades - Tabulam, Frazer's Cutting and Ewingar.

Participation in the three Ambrose event is $7 a person and there will be a sausage sizzle available for purchase along with drinks.

There will be prizes awarded on the day.

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.

Billycart Bonanza

The 5th annual Kyogle Billycart Bonanza will be held in Stratheden Street, Kyogle on Sunday 9 September.

Please note that this year's event is not being held on Father's Day.

The Billycart Bonanza provides the perfect opportunity for parents/grandparents, young and old, to spend a fun family day with their children or grandchildren.

Experience the 'Thrill of the Hill' in the many different race categories.

Spring Dance

Mallanganee Hall will host a Spring Dance on Saturday 15 September from 6pm-11pm.

Live entertainment by Greg Nolan. BYO drinks and nibbles.

Tickets cost $20 a person and include a light supper.

Tickets are available at the Wild West Store, Bonalbo Post Office, Tabulam Post Office or at the door on the day.
Hold a garage sale on SECOND HAND SATURDAY

If clutter is starting to crowd your living spaces then now is the perfect time to get ready for Second Hand Saturday!

Kyogle Council and North East Waste are once again organising the North Coast’s biggest day of garage sales for Saturday 22 September and registrations are now open.

Coordinator of Second Hand Saturday, Linda Tohver said often the hardest part of planning a garage sale was where to begin.

According to the latest Annual Choosi Clutter Report, there is an estimated $60 billion worth of stuff sitting unused in Australian homes.

“The report estimates that if we put this clutter into standard packing boxes, it would be enough to create a wall six boxes high around the entire Australian coastline!” Ms Tohver said.

The most common types of clutter tend to be general odds and ends followed by clothing and footwear, paper, books/records/CDs, materials for hobbies and interests, appliances and kitchenware and technology products.

Ms Tohver suggests visiting the Second Hand Saturday website and having a bit of fun with the new ‘What’s in My House’ quiz.

“Get the kids or grandkids involved and have a good look through these common clutter items to see just how much you have and what you really need,” she said.

So what’s the draw-card with Second Hand Saturday?

Apart from free advertising of your garage sale, it’s the biggest garage sale event to involve Tweed, Byron, Ballina, Kyogle, Lismore, Richmond Valley and the Clarence Valley, attracting enthusiastic treasure hunters from all around.

“Get your neighbours involved and hold a street sale, or run a fundraiser and collate your efforts at your local club, school or church. The more attention, the better results you will have,” Ms Tohver said.

For more information or to register, visit secondhandsaturday.com.au, like the mysecondhandsaturday Facebook page or phone Kyogle Council on 6632 1611.