

Kyogle Council Community Newsletter

FEBRUARY/MARCH 2019



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

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Council joins efforts to aid **FIRE RECOVERY**

Kyogle Council continues to work with disaster recovery agencies and community welfare organisations to help people affected by the Tabulam bushfires.

At the time of going to print, 10 houses were destroyed and six were damaged in the fires which burnt out more than 7200 hectares of country surrounding Tabulam.

A further 23 farm and other structures were also destroyed in the blaze which also forced the evacuation of Jubullum village.

It's unknown how many farm animals and wildlife perished in the fires.

As well as initially providing support on the ground to firefighters battling the blaze, Council has helped co-ordinate the recovery efforts overseeing the return of essential services.

Council staff also have been on site helping with the clean-up and ensuring fire areas are safe for residents to return to.

Meanwhile, disaster assistance has been made available to people affected by the fires in both Kyogle and Tenterfield Shire local government areas.



Volunteer Rural Fire Service fire fighters on the ground at the Tabulam bushfire.

Assistance has been provided through the jointly funded Commonwealth-State Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA).

Assistance measures available under the DRFA may include:

- help for eligible people whose homes or belongings have been damaged;
- support for affected local councils to help with the costs of cleaning up and restoring damaged essential public assets;
- concessional interest rate loans for small businesses, primary producers, and non-profit companies;
- freight subsidies for primary producers; and

- grants for eligible non-profit organisations.

For information on personal hardship and distress assistance, contact the Disaster Welfare Assistance Line on 1800 227 228.

To apply for a concessional loan, grant or freight subsidy, contact the NSW Rural Assistance Authority on 1800 678 593 or visit www.raa.nsw.gov.au

Further information about disaster assistance is available on the Australian Government's Disaster Assist website at www.disasterassist.gov.au and the NSW emergency information and response website at www.emergency.nsw.gov.au



From the MAYOR

Our heart goes out to all those people affected by the Tabulam bushfires.

From day one of the disaster, Council was working with other emergency management agencies to help get essential services back up and running and return life to near as normal as possible for the survivors.

The recovery will take time, but the people of Tabulam and district are resilient and I'm confident that with support the community will come through this stronger than ever.

With the upcoming state election, I've been attending quite a few meetings with candidates to highlight our opportunities, challenges and funding requirements over the next four years.

We need a rural voice, particularly at the state level and Council is lobbying for the establishment of a rural portfolio across all government departments so we can be included and better represented in government decision making.

The Tabulam agribusiness precinct, the Clarence Way from the Bruxner to Bonal-



bo, removal of the waste levy and our infrastructure backlog are among the issues we are currently lobbying around.

The Joint Organisation, (JOs) have taken off. Thirteen JOs have been established across NSW, including the Northern Rivers Joint Organisation (NRJO).

The NRJO will:

- Establish and implement strategic regional priorities
- Provide regional leadership/advocacy
- Collaborate across levels of Government and key agencies

The NRJO's vision is to support the Northern Rivers to be a unified region of well connected, integrated communities where residents enjoy a unique balance of place, lifestyle and opportunity.

The NRJO has developed five regional strategic priorities and agreed on a number of priority projects which we will be advocating around in the lead up to the election.

Priority One - Thriving, healthy and bio diverse natural environments

- Projects: Support for the Rous Regional Watershed initiative and advocate for change to Forestry policy and planning regulations to encourage native forestation.

Priority two - Improved community wellbeing now and into the future

- Projects - Increased social housing, in-

cluding crisis and emergency accommodation, to be on par with the State average of 4% of housing stock, within people's community of interest.

Priority three - A physically and digitally connected region

- Projects: Accelerated road repair program through doubling the funding of the Commonwealth Government's Roads to Recovery Program and the NSW Government's Regional Roads Repair Program over the next four years.

Priority four - Innovative, sustainable energy, water and waste management

- Projects: Develop a Northern Rivers renewable energy investment prospectus and advocate for removal or redistribution of the waste levy

Priority five - A diversified, prosperous and sustainable regional economy

- Projects - Removal of benefit cost ratios or BCRs from funding criteria and obtain UN biosphere status.

The Statement of Strategic Priorities and information about the JO can be found at www.northernriversjo.nsw.gov.au.

My next Mayoral outreach meeting will be held at Cawongla on March 14.

If you have an issue or would just like a chat, please contact Council on 6632 0214 to make an appointment so you're not kept waiting.

Danielle Mulholland



RURAL FIRE headquarters opened

The new Rural Fire Service headquarters at Kyogle was officially opened on 2 February.

The new headquarters in Ettrick Street cost \$455,000 and has meet-

ing and training rooms, air conditioning, a kitchen and amenities. It was built thanks to a partnership between Council and the State and Federal Governments.

ABOVE: Kyogle Rural Fire Service Volunteers cut the cake at the official opening of their new headquarters.



Work is progressing on the labyrinth at the Kyogle Recreation Reserve. Council staff and volunteers from the Friends of the Labyrinth are working together on the project which should be completed sometime in March.



Members of the community and local business leaders joined with Councillors and staff to celebrate the announcement by Member for Lismore Thomas George that the State Government will give Council \$4.2 million to seal the final 15km gravel section of the Clarence Way.

\$4.2M BOOST for Clarence Way upgrade

There were smiles all round following the announcement last month that the State Government will provide \$4.2 million so Council can seal the final 15km gravel section of the Clarence Way.

The funding, through the Government's Fixing Country Roads Program, was announced by retiring Member for Lismore Thomas George and Nationals Candidate for the seat Austin Curtin.

The \$4.2 million will be added to the \$3.55 million already committed to the project by the Federal Government.

"The Clarence Way is one of Tabulam's major link roads, connecting farming en-

terprises at Tabulam to markets in Queensland and south to Grafton. This funding will seal and stabilise the last section of dirt road, making it safer for the many freight and transport companies which drive on it, Mr George said.

"With five major agri-businesses operating around Tabulam, it's vital that roads and services are maintained to allow their operations to grow."

The sealing of the Clarence Way is part of Kyogle Council's Tabulam Agriculture Precinct. This project aims to upgrade roads, bridges, water and sewerage at Tabulam, allowing the community to handle an increase in business activity and population into the future.

Kyogle Council Mayor Cr Danielle Mulholland described the \$4.2 million funding

injection as a 'fantastic outcome for the community' after years of planning.

"Council could not have achieved this success without the community's support in preparing a business case for the project," she said.

"As I have said before, everyone wins when the State and Federal Governments work in hand in hand with Council on projects such as this that provide the community with real and lasting benefits."

"It's also good to see our rural communities getting the type of infrastructure that will help bring their standard of living up to those people living in more populated areas."

Work on the road upgrade will start later this year.

School zone rules will be ENFORCED

Council is reminding parents and caregivers that strict rules apply when parking in a school zone and anyone caught disobeying the rules could face a fine and the loss of demerit points from their licence.

The following rules apply to school zones:

No Parking and drop-off Zones -8.30-9.30am and 3pm-4pm.

- You must drop-off or pick-up children within two minutes
- You cannot leave your vehicle



- No waiting in zone
- Disobey No Parking sign - \$187 and**

two demerit points

Double Park – School Zone \$337 and two demerit points

Disobey No Stopping sign - School Zone \$337 and two demerit points

Stop near pedestrian crossing - School Zone \$448 and two demerit points

Stop on footpath - (eg under trees) \$337 and two demerit points

Stop in a Bus Zone - School Zone \$337 and two demerit points

As this is an issue of child safety, Council's regulatory officer will not be giving warnings to offending motorists.

For further information, contact Council on 6632 1611.



Kyogle LGA celebrates **AUSTRALIA DAY 2019**



Kyogle Citizen of the Year Margaret Armstrong is congratulated by Australia Day Ambassador Craig Goozee.

Unsung community heroes and high achievers were honoured at Australia Day celebrations held across the Kyogle Council local government area last month.

The presentation of community awards was part of events held at Kyogle, Bonalbo and Woodenbong to mark Australia's national day.

As part of the festivities, Kyogle Council also allowed free entry to its public swimming pools at Kyogle, Bonalbo and Woodenbong.

The Australia Day Award winners for the three centres are:

Kyogle

Senior Citizen of the Year - Jack McDonough

Junior Citizen of the Year - Felicity Duley

Citizen of the Year - Margaret Arm-



West of the Range Citizen of the Year Jeanette Flanagan.

strong

Junior Sportsperson of the Year - Ziah Piggott

Senior Student of the Year - Eliza Williams

Senior Sportsperson of the Year - Dean Ferris

Woodenbong

Citizen of the Year - Margaret Martin
Community Organisation/Event of the Year -- Woodenbong Craft Group
Business/Service of the Year - Woodenbong Hotel - Tony Neylon licensee.

West of the Range

Citizen of the Year - Jeanette Flanagan
Young Citizen of the Year - Leroy Gilroy

Senior Citizen of the Year - Yvonne



Woodenbong Citizen of the Year Margaret Martin is presented with her award by Australia Day ambassador Khushaal Vyas.

Gay

Sportsperson of the Year - Matthew Avery

Community Organisation or Event -



Kyogle's Senior and Junior Citizens of the Year, Jack McDonough and Felicity Duley.



Member for Lismore Thomas George and local ambassador Athol McQueen congratulate Sportsperson of the Year Matthew Avery and other nominees.



Woodenbong Australia Day Committee join the MayorCr Danielle Mulholland in congratulating Australia Day Award recipients.



New rally planned for Bonalbo area

Council has given its in principle support to a new rally event proposed for the Bonalbo area on Saturday 20 July.

Council's support is conditional on the proposed Working Dog Rally receiving all the 'necessary approvals and permits'.

The new rally is being organised by the Gold Coast Tweed Motorsporting Club, the same group that organises the Kyogle and Woodenbong events.

The club has already held preliminary discussions with the Bonalbo community, and has promised to continue working with and involving the community to ensure residents impacted by the rally are fully aware of operational procedures, particularly in relation to road closures.

They also want to help the community maximise any benefits flowing from the rally.

The proposed rally would be a State Championship-level event and would include day and night stages, with the rally headquarters to be based at the Bonalbo Showground.

Works starts on Green Pigeon Road project

Rehabilitation work has been completed on the section of Woodenbong Road in Bonalbo.

Work is still going full steam ahead on Culmaran Creek Road, with construction beginning on the Hanley's Bridge replacement.

Unfortunately, works on the Mitchell Bridge replacement on Williams Road have been delayed meaning the current closure will be in place until April.

However, the Oxbow Road causeway replacement and the Old Dyraaba Road bridge replacement have both been completed as has the Eden Creek bridge to culvert project.

New signs will continue to appear around the Council area and village entrances.

Flood damage repairs on Birney Bridge have commenced and the replacement of the badly damaged causeway on the gravel section of Grady's Creek Road is complete.

Works on Grady's Creek Road on the Lions Road between Brindle Creek and the northern intersection of the Lions Road and Grady's Creek Road are nearing completion.

Works on the Summerland Way at Donaldson's will commence following the Grady's Creek project.

Earthworks for the Green Pigeon Road Blackspot project, *see above*, have started.

Green Pigeon Road will be closed for short intervals while the work is carried out. During these times traffic will be detoured via Killaloe Road.

Landholders wanted for cane toad study

Where has the toad crossed the road?

A new project partnership between the Border Ranges Richmond Valley Landcare Network (BRRVLN) and National Parks and Wildlife Service will try to answer this question in the Kyogle and Richmond Valley local government areas.

The project is funded by the Department of Primary Industries Special Purpose Fund and will run from January 2019.

Cane toads are poisonous to native species at all stages of their life cycle. The Summerland Way is the containment line for cane toad incursion in northern NSW. A primary aim of the project is to understand the current distribution and population density of cane toads to the west of that containment line.



The project team will undertake cane toad surveys and trapping on private land in areas west of the Summerland Way, south from around Rappville and north to Woodenbong.

The project team is seeking expressions of interest from landholders in the project area who are interested in cane toad collection being conducted on their land.

The team is especially interested in determining the presence of cane toads in Dyraaba, Theresa Creek, Sextonville, Eden Creek, Ironpot Creek, Afterlee, Rukenvale, Roseberry Creek, Grevillia, Sherwood, Woodenbong, Muli Muli, Brumby's Plains and Urbenville.

A further aim of the project is to increase landholder's capacity to control cane toads on their own property with the aim of slowing the spread of cane toads into unaffected areas.

Information and resources for detecting, reporting and controlling cane toads will be available from the Border Ranges Richmond Valley Landcare Network office in Kyogle.

For more information or to indicate your interest in cane toad surveys or control please contact the Project Officer Tamar Cohen on 0424 031 999 or the BRRVLN office on 6632 3722.



Roxy Gallery

ONWARDS AND UP

The Roxy Gallery is going up in the world - upstairs in the Kyogle Memorial Institute.

Accessible by a lift housed in the KMI's newly revitalised foyer entrance, the gallery's new exhibition space will offer the community an increased capacity to engage in the creative arts.

The foyer will showcase a static display depicting the history of the KMI and will feature the original projectors used in the hall.

It will also provide the opportunity to develop a new initiative, a young and emerging artists' gallery space, as well as a showcase area for art works that have been held in acquisition by Kyogle Council.

The first exhibition at the gallery's new location, A Collection Of A Selection,

features selected works from artists in the community who have supported the Roxy Gallery throughout its 23 year history.

It will officially open to the community as a special event on Friday March 1 from 6-8pm.

Those attending will be able to inspect the new exhibition space while enjoying the collection of works selected by the gallery director and some light refreshments provided by the Kyogle and District Arts Group.

The Roxy Gallery will start normal gallery operation on Wednesday 6 March.

The new hours of operation are Wednesday to Saturday from 10am - 3pm.

To contact the gallery, email roxygallery@kyogle.nsw.gov.au or phone 6632 3518. You can also like the gallery on Facebook at www.facebook.com/Roxy-Gallery

These are very exciting times for the area's arts community, as Council takes on this new space for the creative industries and works at developing and exploring other potential uses for the KMI.



Karma Phunstok's painting Sheepstation Creek Buddha is one of the works selected by Roxy Gallery director Ruth Tsiimbini to feature in the A Collection of a Selection exhibition.

FENCING

what are the rules?

People looking to put up new property boundary fences or replace existing boundary fences should be aware of the rules that apply.

Essentially, any person is permitted to erect a fence along their property boundary without the need for consent from Council, subject to the fence meeting the following criteria for height, materials and appearance:

Village or town areas

- Property boundaries with road frontage- fence must be no higher than 1.2 metres and open for at least 20% of the area of the fence higher than 400mm above ground.
- Other property boundaries- fence must be no higher than 1.8 metres or, if constructed of masonry, must be no higher than 1.2 metres. Fence



must not be higher than 1.2 metres where within the setback area of a road frontage.

- If constructed of metal, must be low reflective, pre-coloured materials.
- Must not use barbed wire.
- Must not be constructed on flood prone land.

Rural, and rural residential areas

- Fence must not be higher than 1.8 metres.
- Must be constructed using post and wire or post and rail.
- Not include any masonry construction that extends more than 3 metres either

side of the principal property entrance.

- If located on bushfire prone land, be constructed of non-combustible materials or hardwood.
- If it is constructed of metal components, be of low-reflective, factory pre-coloured materials.
- If it is constructed on flood prone land, not redirect or interrupt the flow of surface or ground water.

If the proposed fence will not meet the criteria listed above development consent from Council will be required.

Who pays for fences on common boundaries?

Under the provisions of the NSW Dividing Fences Act owners of adjoining properties are equally liable for the cost of erecting a fence on a common boundary **where there is no existing sufficient dividing fence.**

However, this only extends to the cost of providing a 'sufficient' dividing fence.

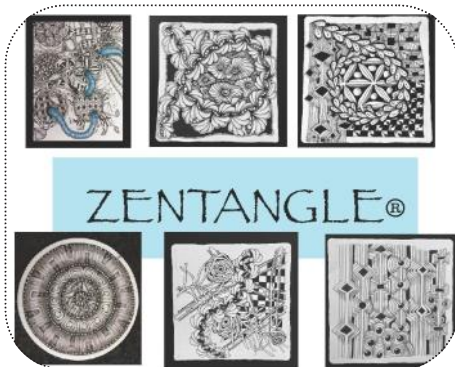
If one owner wishes to erect a fence that will cost more than a standard, sufficient fence, that owner is responsible for paying the difference or additional cost.

Where a fence needs to be repaired or replaced as a result of works carried out on one property, or an incident or deliberate act, the owner of that property is solely responsible for the cost of replacement or restoration of that fence.

For further information, phone Council on 6632 0293.



LIBRARY NEWS



Free workshop

British certified Zentangle teacher Anne Ruffles will present a free workshop at

the Kyogle library on Wednesday 6 March from 11am-noon.

Zentangle is a mindful art form using structured patterns. No drawing experience is necessary and all equipment will be provided for the workshop.

Bookings are essential, phone the library on 6632 1134 by Tuesday 5 March.

Library Lovers' Day

The theme for Library Lovers' Day 2019 is 'Library Love Stories' and Kyogle library is celebrating by holding a 'Blind Date with a Book'. The library will have books that are single and ready to mingle from 11 – 28 February.

You will be able to select your 'date' from the display of specially wrapped books with only the first line of the story

to go on. Borrow it, unwrap it and see where your 'date' takes you. Will it be hot, or not, would you give it another shot? Only you can decide!

Every 'Blind Date' you make will put you in the draw to win a hamper full of chocolates. The winners will be drawn on 6 March 2019 so good luck finding your perfect match!

Pizza and pages

Pizza and Pages is held at the Kyogle library on the third Thursday every month between 3.30-4.30pm during school terms.

The event is for tweens and teens (10-18 years olds). No bookings required, just come along and join in the fun.

Community event CALENDAR

Workshops for creatives

Arts Northern Rivers host two workshops for people interested in the creative industries at the Roxy Gallery on 27 March.

The morning workshop (10am-1pm) with Christine Giorgio will help people to get their creative life and business vision and mission rock solid.

The Vision and Mission Clarity For The Creative Industries workshop will look at topics ranging from the boosting energy levels and motivation and easing overwhelm and burn out to finding the perfect business market or career path and developing consistency and authenticity in your business and personal life.

The workshop costs \$45 and is limited to 10 places.

The afternoon workshop, Arts Grants 101 is a practical workshop facilitated by Peter Wood (CEO) of Arts Northern Rivers.

The workshop will guide participants through the challenging landscape of arts grants and will explore examples of successful application. It will also provide details of arts grants for regional creatives. It will run from 2-4 pm and costs \$25 a person.

To book a place at one or both of the workshops, contact Arts Northern Rivers on 6621 4433 or email [info@artsnorthern-riv-](mailto:info@artsnorthern-riv-ers.com.au)

[ers.com.au](http://artsnorthern-riv-ers.com.au)

School centenary

Afterlee Public School will celebrate its centenary on the October Long weekend (5 October) this year.

All residents, past and present pupils and staff are invited to help the school celebrate 100 years of public education at Afterlee.

For further details or contributions please contact the school on 6633 3163 or The Centenary Committee on 6633 3107.

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 0407 506 548 or Anne on 6632 1851.

Single launch

Local duo Watling & Bates will launch their song 'In The Dead Of Night' as a radio single at a function at the Grevillia Hall on Saturday 13 April.

The duo will be accompanied by producer Thor Phillips on guitar and Dobro. There will be a presentation of archival news articles and a screening of their self-produced music video featuring Eden Creek local Kevin Tearle

Admission is \$10 for adults or \$25 for a family, with tea, coffee, and light refreshments available from the Hall Committee during the evening.

The event is BYO and cash only, with attendees welcome to bring a chair.

Men's Shed wants new members

Bonalbo's Community Men's Shed aims to provide support for rural men's physical and mental health, including special times in the shed when only blokes are in attendance.

However, the shed will also be available at other times to all in the community – females and teens – to learn new skills such as wood work, stone polishing, lead lighting, black smithing, plant propagation and maybe even welding.

Not all these activities are available as yet, but the committee is working on it.

To that end, the committee is keen to build membership of the Community Men's Shed which is located at the Louisa Johnston Centre, Sandilands Street, Bonalbo.

Currently, Blokes Mornings are held on Thursday and Saturdays from 9am to noon and meetings are held on the second Saturday of each month from 10am, with a \$2 fundraising sausage sizzle afterwards. If you would like more information on becoming a member, call Bonalbo Community Men's Shed President John on 0428 651 211.

Priority weed found on Northern Rivers

A containment of Frogbit (*Limnobium* sp) has been discovered during a routine inspection by a Rous County Council (RCC) Weed Biosecurity Officer.

The plant is listed as a statewide prohibited matter and is classified as one of the state's highest priorities.

It is the second time Frogbit has been found on the Northern Rivers

Rous County Council Weed Biosecurity Team Leader, Rhett Patrick, stated:

"This is the second time we have found Frogbit in this region and only the third time in New South Wales (I have only heard of one other council finding it)," Rous County Council Weed Biosecurity Team Leader Rhett Patrick said.

"Frogbit is one of our highest priority action weeds and, to give some comparison, is the equivalent of the recent local discovery of Yellow Crazy Ants.

"We are putting our best efforts to stop



Frogbit, pictured above, is one of the highest priority action weeds in NSW



A distinguishing feature of Frogbit is the airsac on the underside of the leaf.

the spread of this Frogbit in this area and highlight the importance of these actions to the community."

Mr Patrick said that both times the plant was found in the Northern Rivers, it was growing at a nursery.

"We are aware of people selling prohibited matter (such as Frogbit) through online market sites like Gumtree and monitor these sites regularly," he said.

"Many people may not be aware what

they are doing is illegal.

"Often people think it is harmless without checking to see if that species is prohibited."

To find out more about how to identify Frogbit and any other weed biosecurity threats, please visit Rous County Council website, DPI NSW website or speak to RCC Weed Biosecurity Team Leader, Rhett Patrick at rhett.patrick@rous.nsw.gov.au.

Council Meetings

Council Meetings: The next Ordinary Council meeting will be held on Monday 11 March 2019 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, email or phone 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 Council 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

Cr Kylie Thomas

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Cr Hayden Doolan

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Cr Janet Wilson

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B WARD

Cr John Burley (Deputy Mayor)

6632 1436 or 0437 252 376

john.burley@kyogle.nsw.gov.au

Cr Maggie May

0499 551 714 or 6633 3338 (a/h)

maggie.may@kyogle.nsw.gov.au

Cr Robert Dwyer

6632 3352

bob.dwyer@kyogle.nsw.gov.au

C WARD

Cr Danielle Mulholland (Mayor)

0438 931 425

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Cr Lindsay Passfield

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Cr Earle Grundy

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KYOGLE COUNCIL
HOURS 8.30AM-4PM
MONDAY TO FRIDAY

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