



LOCAL MATTERS

LISMORE CITY COUNCIL NEWS
ISSUE 106, 31 JANUARY 2018



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AFRICAN MIGRANT KIDS LEAP INTO WATER SAFETY CLASSES

Thirteen local children from families who arrived in Australia as refugees or supported migrants recently undertook swimming lessons at the Goonellabah Sports & Aquatic Centre.



The children's families come from various African countries, including South Sudan, Rwanda and the Democratic Republic of Congo, and have now established themselves in the local area.

The Kick Start classes are conducted by qualified swimming instructors at Goonellabah Sports & Aquatic Centre and are arranged by the North Coast Settlement Service, an arm of the St Vincent de Paul Society NSW that assists migrants and refugees to become self-reliant and to participate in the local community.

The classes are sponsored by the North Coast Community Foundation and are a collaboration between the Service for the Treatment and Rehabilitation of Torture and Trauma Survivors (STARTTS), the Department of Social Services, and Anglicare, which is assisting with transport.

"With the North Coast's outdoor lifestyle and the many opportunities to swim at beaches, pools and other water bodies, we can't over emphasise the importance of water safety for young children," North Coast Settlement Service outreach worker Penny May said.

"Around the state this summer we've seen too many people get into trouble in the water, and a significant number have come from migrant backgrounds. Helping people develop the skills and confidence to swim safely is of paramount importance.

"The uptake from these local families has been fantastic. The lessons the kids learn during this week will benefit them for the rest of their lives, and may actually help save their life one day.

"With the steadily growing migrant and former refugee population in the local area, the swimming program plays an important role in the community."

The Swimsations team at Goonellabah Sports & Aquatic Centre runs swimming lessons for children of all ages right up to adults, and there are a variety of classes at both the Goonellabah Sports & Aquatic Centre and the Lismore Memorial Baths.

For more information about Learn-to-Swim lessons or to enrol, phone 6625 5370.



Swimsations instructors Jayden Gooley (left) and Daniel Lange with five-year-old Dec Maciek from South Sudan and six-year-old Joy Nzaramba from Rwanda during swimming lessons at Goonellabah Sports & Aquatic Centre recently.

URBAN GREEN CORRIDORS PLAN RESTORES CITY HABITAT



Lismore City Council has launched its Urban Green Corridors Plan to help restore urban bushland reserves and link important habitat pockets throughout the city.

The Urban Green Corridors Plan is a key project in the Biodiversity Management Strategy, which aims to increase the area of bushland reserves being actively managed by Council by 20% in the next three years, bringing the total area to more 80 hectares within the city limits.

Council will work with Landcare groups, community groups, schools and other agencies to revegetate five hectares of land within the Urban Green Corridors area by 2021, including areas along the river, rainforest and koala habitat throughout the Lismore urban area.

“Lismore is located in a biodiversity hotspot, home to a range of wildlife including iconic species such as the koala and platypus,” Council’s Environmental Strategies Coordinator Angus Underwood said.

“The Urban Green Corridors Plan provides a strategic and coordinated approach to the conservation and restoration of urban biodiversity values. Key wildlife corridors are identified which connect fringe bushland on the edges of the city to bushland areas within the city limits.

“These corridors are the focus of Council’s urban biodiversity program. The idea is that we create healthy habitat through the city enhancing corridors where wildlife can co-exist with us, and improving soil and water quality.”

As part of the development of the Urban Green Corridors Plan, a bushland condition assessment was undertaken across 220 hectares of Council-managed bushland. A ‘Bushland Condition Class’ was determined for each reserve and the study found that 39% of Council-managed bushland reserves are degraded and dominated by weeds.

“Lismore city should be proud of the 61% of bushland that is in good condition and we should build on that,” Angus said.

“Lismore has some amazing biodiversity values already, with more than 40 different threatened plant and animal species being recorded in habitats such as the rainforest remnant at Rotary Park, right in the heart of the city. We are also very lucky to have a resident koala population in the city relying on more than 400 hectares of koala habitat.”

The Urban Green Corridors Plan can be viewed on Council’s website at www.lismore.nsw.gov.au.

Local residents are encouraged to help protect and enhance urban green corridors in the following ways:

- Put garden waste in your green bin to stop the spread of weeds.
- Plant bush-friendly native plants in your garden – check out Council’s free publication *My Local Native Garden Guide*.
- Keep your pets inside at night to protect native wildlife.
- Walk your dog on a lead and pick up after your pet when in bushland and parks.
- Join a Landcare group or participant in tree planting events.

BULK CONTAINER DROP-OFF COMING SOON

Council will open a Return and Earn bulk collection point for people with 100+ eligible containers on Wednesday, 7 February at the Lismore Recycling & Recovery Centre in Wyrallah Road.

This collection point will be open three days per week – Wednesday and Thursday from 7am to 4pm and Saturdays from 9am to 4pm.

This bulk collection point is aimed at businesses and community organisations who have collected bulk containers, but can also be used by anyone with over 100 containers.

It is important that residents understand that only eligible containers will acquire a refund. Containers cannot be broken or crushed, as the barcode must be able to be scanned by the counting machine. Any containers that are unable to be scanned will not be eligible for a refund.

Which containers can be returned for a refund?



Most 150ml to three-litre drink containers will be eligible for a 10 cent refund. Containers that may be eligible for a refund include:

- Glass
- Steel
- Plastic
- Liquid paperboard (cartons)
- Aluminium

Containers should be empty, uncrushed, unbroken and have the original label. Wine, spirits, cordial and plain milk containers are generally not eligible. If a container isn't eligible for a refund, please place in your yellow recycling bin or in the skips at the Brewster Street Drop-off Centre.

Which containers aren't eligible for a refund?



Containers that cannot be deposited for a refund include:

- Plain milk (or milk substitute) containers
- Flavoured milk containers of one litre or more
- Pure fruit or vegetable juice containers of one litre or more
- Glass containers for wine and spirits
- Casks (plastic bladders in boxes) for wine or water of one litre or more
- Sachets for wine of 250ml or more
- Containers for cordials and concentrated fruit/vegetable juices
- Registered health tonics

Those visiting the bulk collection site will not have to go over the weighbridge – simply follow the signage on-site to the collection point.

We encourage everyone using both the bulk collection point and the reverse vending machine at Brewster Street to act in a safe and responsible way and park only in designated areas.

Please note the bulk collection point will issue cash refunds while the reverse vending machine at Brewster Street provides vouchers or credit.

For any issues with the vending machine, phone operator TOMRA on 1800 290 691. For more info, visit www.returnandearn.org.au.

2018 AUSTRALIA DAY AWARD WINNERS

The founder of an organisation dedicated to the protection of women, children and companion animals at risk of domestic violence, Anna Ludvik, has been named Lismore's 2018 Citizen of the Year.

She was among eight individuals and groups to be recognised at the Australia Day Awards ceremony on 26 January at Lismore City Hall.

THE 2018 AUSTRALIA DAY AWARD WINNERS ARE:

Citizen of the Year – Anna Ludvik

Anna established Lucy's Project in 2013 with a mission to make the world a better place for people and animals affected by domestic violence.

Anna created a peak organisation for Australia, from her home in Lismore, which is internationally recognised with chapters in most states of Australia.

Lucy's Project gives organisations as diverse as animal shelters, police, women's refuges, domestic violence services and government organisations, a space to discuss issues, tackle problems and work collaboratively. Anna was commended in NSW Parliament in 2016 for the

international conference she organised, bringing world leaders in the field to Australia to advance the movement and raise money for member organisations. Her nominator lauded her compassion and personal sacrifice on behalf of people and animals experiencing domestic violence.

Young Citizen of the Year – Benjamin James Auckram

This 13-year-old lives with spina bifida and inspires those around him with his determination to achieve his goals. His achievements include five gold medals at the NSW Multiclass Swimming Championships, an Australian record in the 400m freestyle for 13-year-old boys (s7 multiclass swimmer) and setting 95 North Coast swimming records in the last six months. His nominator said he also has a warm nature and strong respect for others.



Lucy's Project founder and 2018 Citizen of Year Anna Ludvik with Olivia Neutered Dog and Billie Howliday. Photo: Denise Alison.

Aboriginal Citizen of the Year – Ayden Miners

This Bundjalung man's strong sense of community and culture has led him to become an advocate for an inclusive society where everyone is treated with respect. During his time at Kadina High School, he was a member of the Student Representative Council and was involved in mediation, peer support and mentoring junior students. In 2017, Ayden was awarded the John Lincoln Youth Community Service Award from the Order of Australia Association.

Services in Community (Individual) – Michael Berry

Michael has been an active member of his community for more than 30 years, volunteering with the Modanville P&C, the Dunoon Fire Service, the Dunoon Community Group, the Dunoon & District Sports & Recreation Club and Dunoon United Football Club. He has worked tirelessly to make Modanville and Dunoon safer, healthier and more inclusive communities.

Services in Community (Group) – Jacki Scutt and Lismore Girl Guides, and the 1st Lismore Scout Group

These two joint winners have both been part of the community for a very long time, providing local youth with a family-like atmosphere and a safe and inclusive space where children can learn skills for life that ultimately help them become strong and confident individuals.

Sportsperson (Junior) – James Durheim

This young individual is a star on and off the field and has travelled across Australia and New Zealand representing the Northern Rivers and NSW in rugby and cricket. He is also hailed as someone who consistently shows good sportsmanship and loves the camaraderie of his sports team.

Sports (Team/Group/Organisation) – Dunoon United Football Club

This organisation's nominator stated that their goal is to benefit the entire community with a strong focus on equal participation across age groups and genders. This sporting club was named the Northern NSW Football Club of the Year in 2017 out of 235 clubs in Northern NSW.

Sustainable Environment – Lismore City Council Recycling & Recovery Centre staff

This team of people deals with our community's waste and recycling with meticulous care to create a better environment. Not only do they help operate our award-winning waste facility, but they are committed to creating new initiatives and programs that help our environment. In the words of their nominator: "They are real warriors for a sustainable environment."



DEVELOPMENT CONSENTS ISSUED

ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING AND ASSESSMENT ACT

In accordance with the provisions of Section 101 of the Act and Clause 124 of the EP&A Regulation, notification is given that the undermentioned developments have recently been granted consent.

10/413-2 137 Connor Road, Tregeagle: Section 96(1A) modification to the farm storage building and elevations.

17/103-2 195, 195A and 237 Rosebank Road, Rosebank: Section 96(1) modification to delete condition 6 pertaining to the location of service easements.

17/112 34 Basil Road, Nimbin: Subdivision of one lot to create two lots.

17/299 14 Heather Avenue, Goonellabah: Dwelling and shed.

17/383 115 Brunswick Street, Lismore: Carport with a building line variation to 0.2m to Brunswick Street.

17/387 41 Alternative Way, Nimbin: Temporary storage of a re-sited dwelling for a maximum period of six months.

17/410 17 Kyogle Street, South Lismore: Shed with building line variation to 3.4m to Kyogle Street.

17/411 4 Cochran Street, Lismore: Addition to dwelling comprising a bedroom and timber deck.

17/416 144 Magellan Street, Lismore: Proposed 280-seat grandstand at Oakes Oval.

17/424 29 William Blair Avenue, Goonellabah: Dwelling additions (new bedroom with verandah).

17/425 25 Nimoola Road, Caniaba: Shed with building line variation to 11.4m.

17/427 16 Garrard Street, Girards Hill: Carport with building line variation to 1195mm and concrete driveway.

17/429 17 Dymock Drive, Goonellabah: Shed.

Details of applications and consents, together with conditions attached, may be inspected at Council's Corporate Centre during business hours or via DA Tracking at www.lismore.nsw.gov.au.



HELP END SINGLE-USE PLASTIC BAGS...

Council is very keen to see an end to the use of single-use plastic bags and we can all make a commitment in 2018 to wean ourselves off single-use plastic bags.

We are also encouraging people to take a survey being run by North East Waste to determine the community's current habits around using single-use plastic bags. The outcomes of the survey will be used to design education programs to support the community to reduce their use of plastic bags, and everyone who takes part will go in the draw to win a Live with Less Plastic Pack including reusable bags, a Keep Cup and other environmental goodies.

To take the survey go to:
www.surveymonkey.com/r/plastic_bag_survey

Below are a few easy steps we encourage everyone to follow:

Step 1: Bag the Bag. You will be amazed at the amount of soft plastics you collect and how that empties your landfill bin. Place all soft plastics into a plastic bag, tie it up and place it in your yellow recycling bin. No loose or single plastic bags ever need to go in your recycling or compost bins.

Step 2: Take a second look at packaging before you buy. Are there plastic-free alternatives?

Step 3: Stock up on fabric bags, i.e. small light ones for a quick trip to get milk and bread and bigger ones for the market or supermarket.

Step 4: Get good at using your bags. Set up a system that works for you, i.e. bags in the car, bags by the door, folding bags in your work bag etc.

Step 5: Broadcast your success to friends and family to encourage them to make the change too.





TRAFFIC ALERT: ROADWORKS

Please be aware of delays due to roadworks happening in and around our CBD.

During this time, please keep doing business in our CBD as many businesses are still recovering from the 2017 flood and need your support.

Conway Street near the post office, CBD *(fixing the road)*

Temporary closure of Conway Street between Molesworth and Carrington Streets remains in place to allow us to fix the road in the shortest time possible. This includes the Conway and Carrington Street intersection. Please detour via adjoining streets.

Footpath access to adjoining businesses remains open. Parking is available in the adjoining sections of Conway and Carrington Streets (two-hour parking limit).

We will soon move on to fixing the adjoining section of Conway Street up to its Keen Street intersection and will reopen its Carrington Street intersection when we do.

Molesworth Street near the Rous Water building *(replacing the water main)*

Temporary lane closures will start in Molesworth Street between its Conway and Magellan Street intersections on 5 February while we replace the water main. This includes some of the central parking lanes.

We will construct short lengths of the new water main to reduce the extent of lane closures and traffic control conditions will change accordingly over the coming weeks as we make progress with these staged works.



Union Street near the Norco factory, South Lismore *(water main)*

Expect minor traffic disruptions in Union Street between Elliott Road and Norco Lane as we replace the water main over several weeks.

Wyrallah Road near the Lismore Workers Golf Club, East Lismore *(fixing the road)*

Temporary traffic controls in Wyrallah Road between Oliver Street and Rosedale Square will remain during work hours as we near completion of these roadworks.

Kyogle Road at Rosehill Road, Tuncester *(fixing the road)*

Traffic delays can be expected over the coming months as we fix a 1.5km section of Kyogle Road near its Rosehill Road intersection at Tuncester. Please allow for additional travel time as we alternate traffic flow on one lane at a time.

Keep an eye out for our electronic message boards for further information.





NIGHT WORK ON BALLINA STREET BRIDGE

Lismore City Council, on behalf of Roads and Maritime Services, will be resealing the Ballina Street Bridge road surface in early February.

We will be working for two nights from Saturday, 3 February (weather permitting).

Work will take place between 7pm and 10pm on Saturday, 3 February and between 3pm and 7pm on Sunday, 4 February.

On Saturday lane closures will be in place and may affect traffic times. The bridge will be closed to most vehicles during work on Sunday, 4 February.

We have included a map to show the location of the work and the detour for vehicles up to 33 tonnes and 4.5 metres in height via Fawcett and Colemans bridges.

Please follow all traffic control and detours in place during this time, and sorry for the inconvenience. Thanks everyone!



SAVE THE DATE FOR EAT THE STREET



Block out your diary and get ready for an even bigger and better Eat the Street food festival in 2018.

Eat the Street will be held on Saturday, 10 March.

The Lismore Business Promotion Panel and Lismore City Council are expanding the event throughout the CBD, and there will be new and exciting activities and areas at this year's event.

Last year, Eat the Street won a silver gong at the NSW Tourism Awards, coming second only to the Parkes Elvis Festival in the event category.

Eat the Street was an instant hit for Lismore and has become an annual signature event for the city, with improvements and new things planned each year to continually grow the event.

Save the date and see you there on 10 March!

For information, visit www.eatthestreetlismore.com.au.

YOUR COVER

Joy Nzaramba, 6, is one of 13 local children from refugee and supported migrant families who have been having free swimming lessons at the Goonellabah Sports & Aquatic Centre as part of the Kick Start program run by the North Coast Settlement Service, an arm of the St Vincent de Paul Society NSW.

Despite only now being introduced to swimming, Joy was like a duck to water, learning fast and having lots of fun.

"I love being underwater," she said.

The children's families come from various African countries including South Sudan, Rwanda and the Democratic Republic of Congo. More details inside.





CONTACT US:
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Lismore City Council's Corporate Centre is located at 43 Oliver Avenue, Goonellabah.

We are open Monday to Friday from 8.30am to 4.30pm.

Our postal address is PO Box 23A, Lismore NSW 2480.

You can email us at council@lismore.nsw.gov.au



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