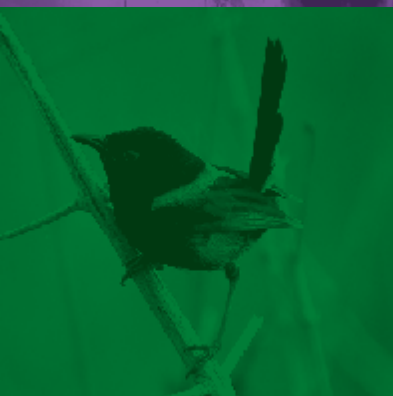


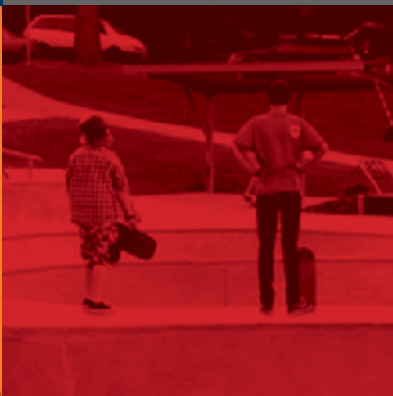


# LOCAL MATTERS

LISMORE CITY COUNCIL NEWS  
ISSUE 109, 14 MARCH 2018



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# ENJOY NATURE AND HELP OUR BOTANIC GARDENS GROW

## The Friends of the Lismore Rainforest Botanic Gardens are looking for nature lovers to lend a hand and volunteer at the gardens once a week.

The group meets every Wednesday morning from 8am, works for about three hours and enjoys morning tea together. President Marie Matthews said it's an activity suited to people of all ages and basic fitness... and you don't have to be an expert gardener!

"You can do nearly anything – gardening, building structures, propagating plants. We have some raised garden beds so those with bad knees can still do weeding, watering, fixing labels etc. There is always work to do," she said.

"We have a really good group with a great mix of males and females. It is a very accepting group and a wonderful community activity for anyone who loves being in nature. One of our members said to me recently his best cup of tea every week is with us at morning tea. I thought that was just lovely."

The Lismore Rainforest Botanic Gardens are located on land next to the Lismore Recycling & Recovery Centre and were officially opened in 2013. However, the idea for a botanic garden started long before that and the gardens have been lovingly nurtured by a hard-working group of volunteers for almost two decades.

The gardens showcase native plants which are indigenous to an area within 200km of Lismore and they boast abundant wildlife including many koalas, wallabies and over 100 species of birds at last count. There are also seating areas where you can relax or picnic, shady walkways to enjoy and colourful signage to direct you.



*Some of the current crop of volunteers at the Lismore Rainforest Botanic Gardens including president Marie Matthews (front and centre).*

"Volunteering here is very rewarding – we are establishing and running a botanic garden and to see the site evolving into something beautiful is quite amazing," Marie said.

"There was almost nothing here when we started – just a few isolated groups of trees and lots of weeds. It was virtually an empty wasteland. We have slowly turned that into a rainforest garden and it is now a very pleasant place to spend time and enjoy the beauty of nature."

New volunteers are welcome to attend the work morning at the gardens every Wednesday at 313 Wyrallah Road from 8am. Volunteers should wear a long-sleeved shirt, pants and sturdy shoes, and bring along some morning tea. For more information, email [secretary@friendslrbg.com.au](mailto:secretary@friendslrbg.com.au) or phone Ros on 0412 317 744.

# BAG ONE OF OUR COMMUNITY GRANTS... INFO SESSION NEXT WEEK

Boomerang Bags Lismore is helping to rid the world of harmful plastic bags – and they say much of their success is due to Council's Annual Community Grants Scheme.

Volunteer Coordinator Jenni Law said the group formed in January 2017, and later that year received a \$7000 community grant, allowing the new volunteer movement to quickly turn into a serious operation.

“We bought sewing machines and overlockers, and all the supplies we needed from thread and scissors to pattern makers and cutters,” Jenni explained.

“The grant enabled us to establish for the long term – it set us up to be successful straight away and gave us guaranteed longevity.”

Boomerang Bags is all about volunteers making reusable bags with donated fabric so shoppers can say no to plastic bags. It originally began as a ‘borrow and bring back’ concept but the Lismore group decided a ‘keep and reuse’ method worked better locally.

They now make around 100 Boomerang Bags each month and donate them to a different local business that has expressed interest so they can distribute them free to customers.

Jenni said people have been incredibly generous in donating fabric, but what the group really needs now is more volunteers.

“We have so much material – we had the most overwhelming response from the community. I reckon we have a couple of years’ worth!” Jenni laughed.

“Of course we are very happy to take more donations but what we really need is volunteers – and you don’t have to sew! There are so many things to do, and ever volunteer gets their very own Boomerang Bag to take home. You can come for an hour or four, once a week, once a month or once a year. Whatever time anyone can give, we welcome.”



*Jenni Law.*

Boomerang Bags Lismore meets on the first, second and fourth Saturday of the month from 11.30am to 3.30pm at the Environment Education Centre (beside the Lismore Recycling & Recovery Centre in Wyrallah Road).

Simply go along anytime, or for more information phone Jenni on 0405 068 281, email boomerangbagslismore@outlook.com or find Boomerang Bags Lismore on Facebook.

The Annual Community Grants Scheme provides grants of up to \$10,000 to organisations that wish to undertake worthwhile community projects or activities, and applications for the 2018 round open on 4 April.

Council is inviting interested community groups to a free community information session next Wednesday, 21 March at 10.30am in the Council Chambers. Council staff will run through the application form and answer any questions.

**For more information or to register for the community information session, please phone Kath Parry on 1300 87 83 87.**

# NEW DISABILITY GROUP TO CHAMPION ACCESS FOR ALL

Lismore City Council recently appointed its new Disability Access and Inclusion Advisory Group to champion the rights of all people to have access to services.

The newly named Disability Access and Inclusion Advisory Group will take over where the former Access and Inclusion Committee left off and provide support to Council on a range of issues.

The members will play a key role in advising Council on how best to implement strategies and actions in Council's Disability Inclusion Action Plan 2017-2020.

The plan details a range of activities and actions for Council to undertake from making websites more inclusive to improving physical access for people living with a disability in our CBD streets and footpaths.

The group will also advise Council on strategies in the Imagine Lismore Community Strategic Plan concerning disability access and inclusion, and later down the track, will help develop any subsequent Disability Inclusion Action Plans.

The group met for the first time on 28 February where Brad Lancaster was elected Chairperson. The group will meet six times a year until the next Council election in September 2020.

"The new group is full of enthusiasm and we have an excellent cross-section of people, from those representing peak disability bodies and carers to local people living with a disability who have a unique perspective on the challenges they are faced with in day-to-day life," Council's Community Engagement and Partnering Officer Catherine Rosenbaum said.

"One great addition is a person representing sport, which will help us further develop local sporting opportunities for people living with a disability. This is something that has been lacking on the group previously.

"Our members are really diverse and have extensive experience living with or working in disability. In 2018, it is really important that any actions we take to improve access and inclusion is spearheaded by people living

with a disability. The group is all about empowering people to tell Council what change is relevant and necessary for them.

"At our first meeting it was very obvious this new group is passionate about change and we have a bunch of really good people who want to make a difference in the lives of people living with a disability."



*Meeting for the first time is the new Disability Access & Inclusion Advisory Group (front l-r) Robert Dingle and his guide dog Amanda, Advisory Group Chairperson Brad Lancaster and Councillor Nancy Casson with (rear l-r) John Zambelli from the House With No Steps, Geoff Kershaw from Southern Cross University, Roland De Vincenzo from St Carthage's Community Care, Lee Clark from Spinal Cord Injuries Australia, Zoe Goodsell and Lismore City Council Community Engagement and Partnering Officer Catherine Rosenbaum. Absent are: Jenny London from RED Inc, Rosemary Bourne, Lisa Cook and Jeremy Hawkes.*

# CHINA'S RECYCLING POLICY SPARKS CHANGES FOR LOCAL RESIDENTS

Lismore residents are being asked to make some simple changes to their recycling habits as the effects of China's National Sword policy are felt across the country.

The National Sword policy is the Chinese Government's mechanism to limit contamination rates of recycled products to less than 0.5%.

Up until last year, the majority of the first world's recycling was sent to China for remanufacture, however, most Material Recovery Facilities (MRFs) in Australia simply cannot comply with the 0.5% threshold. This applies to plastics, paper and cardboard products, which make up the majority of what goes into our kerbside recycling bins.

The policy shift has placed pressure on recycling industries across the world and is forcing local councils – including Lismore – to clean up its act, look at ways to start processing on-shore and close recycling loops.

In Lismore, our situation has been helped by the fact we installed an optical sorter at the MRF in July 2017. The optical sorter allows us to sort and separate the two main plastic streams – PET (water and soft drink bottles) and HDPE (milk bottles, laundry detergent etc) – which means it is easier to find a market for them than it would be otherwise.

Staff now spend more time sorting materials to achieve clean recycling streams and the end product has dropped in price, impacting the MRF's overall profitability. However, China's National Sword policy is also forcing much-needed change within the industry.

“We are managing to find markets for most of our recycled materials in Australia, and anything that we cannot find a home for we are stockpiling,” Business Development Coordinator Danielle Hanigan said.

“There is now a focus on on-shore processing of materials rather than sending it overseas, which ultimately is a better result for the environment and local jobs. Long term we are investigating how we can completely close the loop on recycling in the future.”

Danielle said that Lismore remains at the forefront of developing new ideas and solutions – glass recycling being a prime example.

“We crush all of our glass bottles and jars into sand for use in pipe bedding, drainage and road bases,” Danielle said.

“A few years ago glass recycling was the big problem that the industry was facing, and we managed to develop a viable solution.”

The Lismore MRF also recently became the nominated Northern Rivers processor for the NSW Government's Container Deposit Scheme. As the containers are a cleaner recycling stream and easier to sort and market, this has been a bonus for the MRF.

We are now asking residents to make some small changes to household recycling to help cope with the changes in the global recycling market.

- Keep your recycling as clean as possible. Most things that are fairly clean are fine, like an empty beer bottle for instance, but if something has lots of food in it, please give it a rinse.
- Do not put anything into your recycling bin that cannot be recycled. Keep it simple: aluminium, steel, glass, hard plastic, bagged up soft plastic, paper and cardboard.
- Do not put anything smaller than a business card size into your recycling bin.
- Keep stuff like hoses, pipes and anything that has many different types of materials in it (e.g. a plastic toy with bits of steel) out of your recycling bin.
- Keep contamination out. The main offenders are: dirty nappies, clothing, shoes and anything that can get tangled up such as rope, hose and fairy lights.

At the main drop-off centres in Brewster Street, the Lismore Recycling & Recovery Centre and the Nimbin Transfer Station, Council will no longer be accepting paper and cardboard as a mixed stream. The skip bins will be for cardboard only, and Council is looking into alternative recycling options for paper.

“Our community is one of the most aware communities in Australia when it comes to recycling and right now we need everyone to help solve this problem,” Danielle said.

“We are confident that in time we can find recycling solutions that will be better for the environment, and we can set the example for others to follow.”



## 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.

**05/894-2 52 and 72 Gundurimba Road, Monaltrie:** Section 96(1A) modification to condition one.

**09/83-2 368 and 406 James Gibson Road, Corndale:** Section 96(2) application to modify consent 5.2009.83.2, Corndale Quarry, to laterally expand the approved quarry footprint by 2000m<sup>2</sup>, without proposing to increase the annual extraction rate or the total extraction volume of the quarry.

**15/270-3 220 Dibbs Street, East Lismore:** Section 96(1A) modification to enclose part of the deck to create a sunroom.

**17/59 4 Weaver Street, Lismore:** To undertake the erection of three detached multi-dwelling housing buildings comprising three one bedroom and one two bedroom serviced apartments and associated infrastructure.

**17/104-2 26 Ashgrove Drive, Goonellabah:** Section 96(1A) modification to approved lot five to create a not build zone reflecting the area of uncontrolled fill that will not be level one certified.

**17/343 79 Lillian Rock Road, Blue Knob:** Alterations and additions to an existing dwelling (deck, pergola and demolition of wall and new sliding doors).

**17/393 207 Ballina Road, East Lismore:** Change of use of a heritage item (previously a health practitioner's practice) to a residential building.

**17/397 13 Ewing Street, Lismore:** Change of use of a dwelling to commercial premises.

**17/405 223 Cameron Road, McLeans Ridges:** Strata subdivision to create two lots.

**17/428 110 Cameron Road, Boat Harbour:** Shed and carport with building line variation.

**18/1 49/95 Diadem Street, Lismore:** Kitchen fitout Zen Sushi.

**18/4 191 Military Road, East Lismore:** Sports field lighting (six new light poles and relocation of one existing light pole) and the removal of vegetation.

**18/16 4 Ewandale Close, Clunes:** Inground swimming pool.

**18/24 1 Flatley Drive, Clunes:** Change of use and alterations and additions to an existing shed to create a recreational room for use ancillary to the existing dwelling.

**18/32 10 Charlton Avenue, South Lismore:** Demolition of existing deck and construction of new deck.

**18/36 32 Ostrom Street, South Lismore:** Dwelling additions and alterations including raising of existing dwelling setback 3.4 metres from Ostrom Street.

**18/38 326 Riverbank Road, Monaltrie:** Inground swimming pool.

**18/39 211 Davis Road, Jiggi:** Dwelling alterations and addition (ensuite).

**18/40 41 May Street, Dunoon:** Inground swimming pool.

## DEVELOPMENT PROPOSALS

### ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING AND ASSESSMENT ACT

As the consent authority, Council has received the following development applications for consideration.

**DA NUMBER:** 17/270

**LOCATION AND DP LOT:** 8 Sexton Road, North Lismore (Lot 2 DP 1214954), 55 Dunoon Road, North Lismore (Lot 3 DP 808657), 3 Old Quarry Road, North Lismore (Lot 1 DP 367581), 30 Old Quarry Road, North Lismore (Lot 12 DP 844585), and 48 Old Quarry Road, North Lismore (Lot 1 DP 772627).

**APPLICANT:** Planners North.

**DESCRIPTION:** North Lismore Plateau Subdivision – re-advertised with additional information for the proposed subdivision to create 433 residential allotments, a commercial allotment, open space and areas for environmental management. The proposed development will be undertaken as follows:

Precinct 1: Total of 95 residential allotments, local centre allotment, open space and provision for environmental management;

Precinct 2: Total of 295 residential allotments, open space and areas for environmental management; and

Precinct 3: Staged development consent sought in accordance with Section 83B of the EP&A Act for the creation of 43 residential allotments. Concept approval is sought for Precinct 3 and this area will be subject of a further development application.

The proposed application also seeks approval for associated tree removal, earthworks and infrastructure. The proposal constitutes integrated development in accordance with S91 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*. Approval from the NSW Department of Primary Industries (Water) is required in accordance with the *Water Management Act 2000*, approval from NSW Roads and Maritime in accordance with the *Roads Act 1993*, and approval from the NSW Rural Fire Service in accordance with *Rural Fires Act 1997*. The consent authority is Lismore City Council and the Northern Joint Regional Planning Panel has the function of determining the application.

**CLOSING DATE:** 14 April 2018.

**DA NUMBER:** 18/62

**LOCATION AND DP LOT:** 41 Dunromin Drive, Modanville (Lot 22 DP 861639).

**APPLICANT:** Newton Denny Chappelle.

**DESCRIPTION:** Subdivision to create nine large lots and one residue lot, inclusive of associated public road network and infrastructure services, bulk earthworks and vegetation management works.

**CLOSING DATE:** 28 March 2018.

**DA NUMBER:** 18/68

**LOCATION AND DP LOT:** 416 Nightcap Range Road, Whian Whian (Lot 2 DP 793686).

**APPLICANT:** Mr FR Duddy.

**DESCRIPTION:** Temporary use of approved lodge building as a function centre.

**CLOSING DATE:** 28 March 2018.

You may make a submission to the Council in relation to the development application. The above development applications and Statement of Environmental Effects may be inspected at Council's Corporate Centre, 43 Oliver Avenue, Goonellabah, or via DA Tracking at [www.lismore.nsw.gov.au](http://www.lismore.nsw.gov.au).

Further information relating to written submissions is available on Council's website. There are laws regarding the mandatory disclosure of political donations in relation to planning matters. Political donations disclosure reporting forms are available from the Department of Planning at [www.planning.nsw.gov.au](http://www.planning.nsw.gov.au).



# STUDENTS AND FAMILIES WANTED FOR SISTER CITY STUDENT EXCHANGE PROGRAM

We are looking for students and host families to be part of the 2018 Sister City Student Exchange Program to Japan.

This year marks the 55th anniversary of the sister city relationship between Lismore and Yamato Takada. The official signing of the agreement in 1963 marked the first sister city relationship between Australia and Japan.

As part of the 55th anniversary celebrations, a delegation from Yamato Takada will visit Lismore in June to attend the Lismore Lantern Parade while the Sister City Student Exchange Program will take place between July and September. The exchange program has been running for 33 years. We are now calling for nominations from secondary students to participate in the exchange program as well as nominations from interested people to host students from Yamato Takada when they come to stay in Lismore.

Interested people need to complete the appropriate nomination forms at [www.lismore.nsw.gov.au](http://www.lismore.nsw.gov.au). The closing date for nominations is 30 April.

**For more information, phone Michella Wade on 1300 87 83 87.**



# TRAFFIC ALERT: ROADWORKS

This is a busy year for Council fixing up our CBD roads. Please continue to shop locally despite any traffic disruptions.

## **Molesworth Street near the Lismore Fire Station, CBD**

Now we have completed Conway Street, we have begun roadworks in Molesworth Street between Conway and Magellan Streets. There will be traffic disruptions here for the next two months but we will try to keep one lane of traffic flowing south to exit the CBD. If you are travelling into the CBD from Ballina Road, please detour around the works via Conway Street or Keen Street. We will try to keep some of the central parking lanes in Molesworth Street open for southbound vehicles. Alternative parking can be found in Conway Street and Kirkland Riviera and Rowing Club carparks. Pedestrian access will be maintained at all times.

## **Keen Street north of Lismore Central, CBD**

There will be minor disruptions in Keen Street between Lismore Centro and Magellan Street from 19 March for two weeks as we underbore new water services. This will only affect small areas of on-street parking and footpaths and is in preparation for fixing the road in a few months' time.

## **Keen Street next to the Clyde Campbell (Browns Creek) Carpark**

Minor disruptions continue as we finish the new water main in Keen Street between Woodlark and Zadoc Streets over the coming weeks. This mainly affects small areas of on-street parking and footpath.

## **Bruxner Hwy 3km south of Lismore Airport, South Gundurimba**

Expect significant delays from Monday to Saturday on the Bruxner Highway from Loftville Bridge to Tunstall Street as we continue to fix the road.

## **Kyogle Road at Rosehill Road, Tuncester**

Traffic delays will continue on Kyogle Road near its Rosehill Road intersection as we fix the road.

## **Broadwater Road west of Broadwater Bridge, Broadwater**

Traffic delays can be expected along Broadwater Road for 1.8km west of the Broadwater Bridge as we fix the road.

**Please allow for delays... we will update electronic message trailers.**



## PROPOSED CHANGE TO DEBT RECOVERY FOR PENSIONERS

We are proposing changes to debt recovery procedures for pensioners with outstanding rates or water bills and would like your feedback.

Currently, anyone with an outstanding balance greater than \$300 on rates or \$150 on water accounts receives a reminder letter, giving them 14 days to pay or make a satisfactory payment arrangement. If no such payment or satisfactory arrangement is made, the matter is referred to Council's debt collection agent.

Pensioners are currently exempted from this escalation however it is proposed to remove this exemption.

Council is seeking feedback regarding this proposal. Please email [council@lismore.nsw.gov.au](mailto:council@lismore.nsw.gov.au) or write to the General Manager, PO Box 23A, Lismore, NSW 2480 by close of business on Friday, 13 April.

Following the consultation, Council will consider your feedback and make a final decision regarding the proposed change. If the proposed change does go ahead it would take effect from 1 October 2018. This would give pensioners that are affected time to contact Council regarding a satisfactory payment arrangement to avoid any further debt recovery action.

If you require more information, phone Matt Ryder on **1300 87 83 87**.

## COUNCIL MEETINGS AND BRIEFINGS

The next ordinary meeting of Lismore City Council is on Tuesday, 10 April from 6pm in the Council Chambers. Members of the public can book to speak on any agenda item for up to three minutes.

Councillor briefings are held most Tuesday evenings from 6pm so staff can provide background on issues or projects. People can book time to address Councillors during a public forum session at these briefings.

For bookings, phone Michella Wade on **1300 87 83 87**.



## SAVE THE DATE: FLOOD ANNIVERSARY EVENT

Council is hosting a community gathering – One Year On – at the Lismore Quadrangle on Saturday, 7 April to mark one year since the March 2017 flood.

People are invited to come and celebrate the resilience and strength of the Lismore community with an afternoon of live music plus a BBQ, stalls by emergency services and other community organisations, and a community painting activity.

The Slate café and bar will be open, and people are encouraged to bring their families and enjoy an afternoon sharing and connecting with others.

There will be a free courtesy bus providing transport to and from the event throughout North Lismore, South Lismore, Goonellabah and other areas. The free bus timetable will be printed in the next edition of *Local Matters*.

**Please save the date and join us for this special community gathering and thank you.**



## YOUR COVER

Our Botanic Gardens Officer (or Attenborough as we like to call him) is also something of a keen nature photographer. He helps the hard-working Friends of the Lismore Rainforest Botanic Gardens to keep them nurtured and alive, and is always out and about in the gardens. On this week's cover we feature one of his incredible photos – a giant brown bull ant, one of the longest (4cm) species of ant on Earth.







CONTACT US:  
**1300 87 83 87**

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](mailto:council@lismore.nsw.gov.au)



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