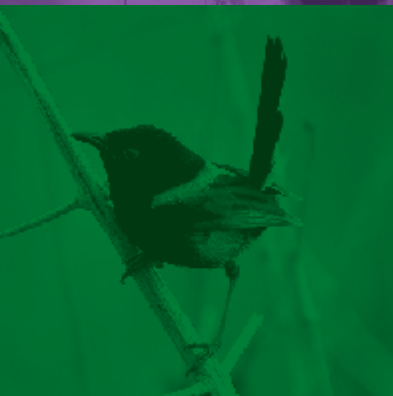




LOCAL MATTERS

LISMORE CITY COUNCIL NEWS
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2021/21 OPERATIONAL PLAN AND BUDGET TO GO ON PUBLIC EXHIBITION

Councillors voted (5 in favour/3 against) to place the Council's Draft Budget and Operational Plan for the financial year 2021/22 on Public Exhibition for community feedback until June 7.

The Draft Budget provides the community with a clear and transparent snapshot of Council's financial situation and ensures the delivery of services our community needs while also investing in the future.

It sees an improvement in Council's cash balance next financial year from a deficit of \$458,000 last year to a \$200,000 deficit. This was achieved at the same time Council plans to invest \$66 million in important capital works over the coming financial year.

Mayor Vanessa Ekins said: "We have been developing the budget since late last year and it is the most thorough and rigorous budget I have seen in my time at Council. An incredible amount of work has gone into it, with councillors and senior management forensically examining all proposed spending."

"The result is a draft budget that gives a very honest and transparent snapshot of Council's financial position. Unfortunately, it is not a good position as the cost of maintaining our assets for exceeds the rates, fees and other revenue Council receives by \$19.5 million before capital grants.

"This means it has been a very hard budget to put together and Councillors have made many tough decisions, with many more ahead for whoever is elected in September so that we can address this substantial operating deficit.

"In the short-term, it means we are heavily reliant on Government grants to improve our roads and cannot start tackling our substantial backlog until this deficit is addressed.

"The good news is that there is no reduction in the services we provide for the community compared with last year. In other words, we will still collect waste, maintain our parks, lend books through the library and continue with our scheduled roadworks."

The draft budget proposes selling a small number of Council-owned properties to generate about \$2 million, a reduction in consultant, legal and labour hire expenditure, a small increase of spending in IT to improve internal efficiencies that will reduce overall costs and improve ratepayer and community experience, and an increase in fees and charges.

Even with the handful of new or re-purposed staff positions in high risk/high value areas like IT and tourism, Lismore City Council's staff head count remains below that of comparable councils, with a lower cost per employee and fewer senior staff, according to a report by PricewaterhouseCoopers.

Council is also investing in graduate, apprenticeship and trainee programs.

Importantly, Council is very focused on debt reduction. Overall, we will only be borrowing for a critical project at the waste facility.

The planned \$66 million capital works program includes:

- Roads & Associated Activities - Infrastructure \$31,980,600
- Parks & Recreation – Infrastructure \$8,286,600
- Wastewater – Infrastructure \$7,682,800
- Water – Infrastructure \$5,933,300
- Waste Disposal – Capping, Leachate, landfill planning, Internal roads and Compliance issues \$5,089,000
- Wooden Bridges – Replacement Projects \$4,372,600
- Plant Replacement Program \$1,488,500
- Emergency Services – Bushfire Recovery \$235,000
- Quarry – Precoat Plant \$220,900
- Lismore Regional Airport – Infrastructure \$200,000
- Asset Management – Infrastructure works \$198,200
- Stormwater Management Services \$153,000
- GSAC – Pool Filter Renewal \$80,000
- Survey & Design Equipment \$4000

The Draft Budget can be viewed at Council's Corporate Centre, 43 Oliver Avenue, Goonellabah, at Lismore and Goonellabah libraries or online via www.yoursay.lismore.nsw.gov.au Submissions can be made online, emailed to council@lismore.nsw.gov.au or sent to the General Manager, Lismore City Council, PO Box 23A, Lismore, NSW 2480.

Public submissions must be received by 7 June 2021. The Draft Budget will then go back to Council for adoption.

RECYCLING - MYTHS VS FACTS #2



In this second article in our recycling series, we are looking at soft plastics.

From 2019, Lismore City Council could no longer accept soft plastics in recycling bins, but you can still recycle soft plastics at major supermarkets.

Woolworths and Coles both have REDcycle collection points at the front of their stores.

Soft plastics make up a huge amount of household waste. We encourage all residents to keep recycling soft plastics by dropping them off at your nearest REDcycle collection point when you go shopping.

People often ask what are soft plastics? Essentially, it's a soft plastic if it can be scrunched up into a ball such as bread bags, biscuit packet wrappers, pasta and rice bags, frozen food bags, confectionary bags, plastic shopping bags and cereal box liners. For more information and a comprehensive list of soft plastics you can drop off at major supermarkets, visit www.redcycle.net.au.

Why couldn't Council keep recycling soft plastics?

We often get asked this question. Unfortunately, at the moment there are no processors in Australia that will accept our soft plastics for recycling after the ban on sending materials to China.

Australian manufacturer Replas recycles the soft plastics collected at major supermarkets via the REDcycle collection points. We asked Replas if they would take our soft plastics but they didn't want any more supply until there is more demand from shoppers for goods made from recycled plastic. So, the only way to recycle soft plastics for now is via the REDcycle collection points.

Next fortnight we will look at hard plastics.

If you would like us to answer a recycling question, call us on **6625 0500**.

Soft plastic recycling

The REDcycle Program makes it easy for consumers to keep plastic bags and packaging out of landfill.

Do the scrunch test



YES PLEASE

Some of the most commonly recycled items include:



NO THANKS

We cannot accept the following:

- X Plastic bottles
- X Plastic containers
- X Any rigid plastic such as meat trays, biscuit trays or strawberry punnets
- X Glass
- X Rubber
- X Paper and cardboard
- X Tin cans
- X Food waste

*Contact your local council to check if it can go into your kerbside collection.

Please make sure your plastic is dry and as empty as possible. For a comprehensive list of what can be REDcycled and more information, check the website.

www.redcycle.net.au

TAKE THE TIME TO SMELL THE 'RAINFOREST' THIS MONTH

Launched in 2016, Botanic Gardens Day is held across Australia and New Zealand on the last Sunday in May every year.

Each year more than 100 botanic gardens, arboretum and gardens in Australia and New Zealand take part to celebrate the vital work botanic gardens do for plant conservation.

This year's theme is Celebrating the Power of Plants.

Why not take the opportunity to discover, or re-discover, our volunteer-run Lismore Rainforest Botanic Gardens which opened in 2013. Between 9.30am and 1pm, there will be guided and self-guided walks, native plant sales, children's activities and lots of information about the Big Scrub.

The Gardens are next to the Recycling & Recovery Waste facility at 313 Wyrallah Road, East Lismore. Parking is at the Environmental Education Centre, follow ramp or stairs up to Gardens.

9am: Gates open.

From 9.30: Coffee, tea and drinks, brunch stall at Environmental Education Centre. Native plant sales at the Nursery, book and card sales (Cash only). Children's activities and information displays at the Visitor's Centre. Self-guided walks at any time.

9.45am: Guided Walk of the Useful Plants Garden with Andreas (1 hr).

10.15am: Native bees as Pollinators with Graeme (1 hr).

10.45am: Guided Walk of Hoop Pine Forest with Marama (1 hr).

10.45am: Opening of the Jeni and Andrew Binns' Sensory Garden.

11.30am: Guided Walk of Useful Plants Garden with Jake (1 hr).

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL FOR ALL GUIDED WALKS by Friday, 28 May

Gold coin donation appreciated for all walks – sorry, no card facilities sorry.

To book or for further information, e-mail publicity@friendslrbg.com.au

Image: JUNE Dragonfly on *Brachychiton bidwillii* by Phil Jarman.



RESTORATION OF THE CLAUDE RILEY MEMORIAL LOOKOUT

Thank you to the Rotary Club of Lismore which used a grant from the Rotary Foundation to restore the Claude Riley Memorial Lookout on New Ballina Road.

Mayor Vanessa Ekins was at the recent launch to thank the club and its volunteers for their efforts to restore the lookout which will be treasured by the community for years to come.

It was also wonderful to have the granddaughter of the late Claude Riley, Candice Power, and her husband Peter attend.

The Lookout project consisted of:

- Replacement of the original lookout sign, which it's believed was installed in the early 1960's
- Removal and replacement of the timber seating
- Removal and replacement of the picnic table-top and seating
- Painting of the picnic table, seating and shelter supports
- New metal roof over the picnic table shelter
- Full upgrade of the garden with new timbers, topsoil, mulch and new plants
- Stepping-stones to the picnic table
- Replacement of the gate posts

The newly installed Interpretive sign gives a brief description of Rotary's involvement in the lookout's history which is a lasting tribute to the memory of the late Claude Riley who, as Lismore Rotary President and one of its most active members, did so much for our community.



Total cost for this project was \$4080.

The Rotary District grant was \$2000, with Rotary Club of Lismore covering the remaining \$2080.

We really do live in a wonderful community.

Thank you Rotary Club of Lismore.



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.

APPLICATION DETAILS

DA21/75 346 Keen Street, East Lismore: Two storey dwelling.

DA21/83 20 Mahogany Parade, Goonellabah: Dwelling.

DA21/85 60 Just Street, Goonellabah: Inground-swimming pool and retaining walls.

DA21/103 17 James Street, Girards Hill: Carport.

DA21/110 85 Keen Street, Lismore: Change of use to commercial premises (Business Premises) with associated fit-out and signage.

DA21/113 4 Smith Street, East Lismore: Dwelling alterations and additions.

DA21/115 16 Pindari Crescent, Goonellabah: Inground-swimming pool.

DA21/116 3 Selena Avenue, Lismore Heights: Dwelling addition (covered deck).

DA21/148 26 Ashgrove Drive, Goonellabah: Dwelling.

DA21/152 8 Magnus Court, Goonellabah: Dwelling.

DA21/156 9 Magnus Court, Goonellabah: Two-storey dwelling.

DA21/159 8 Bottlebrush Place, Caniaba: Dwelling.

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.

DEVELOPMENT PROPOSALS

ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING AND ASSESSMENT ACT

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

DA NUMBER: 21/188

LOCATION AND DP LOT: 8 Eastside Place, East Lismore (Lot 4 DP 236612).

APPLICANT: Aboriginal Housing Office.

PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT: Multi-dwelling housing development (3 dwellings).

CLOSING DATE: 26 May 2021.

If you wish, you may make a submission to the Council in relation to the Development Application. Any submission must specify the grounds of objection (if any).

The above Development Application(s) and accompanying documents may be viewed electronically at Council's Corporate Centre, 43 Oliver Avenue, Goonellabah, during ordinary office hours or via DA Tracking at 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.



EXCLUSIVE EXHIBITION AT YOUR REGIONAL GALLERY

MAX DUPAIN: AUSTRALIAN MODERN

Lismore Regional Gallery / 5 May – 8 August, 2021

Max Dupain is one of Australia's most revered and influential photographers and this exhibition, exclusive to Lismore Regional Gallery, comprises 60 original photographs from a collection hand printed by Jill White, the custodian of his personal/exhibition archive.

Spanning from the 1930s to 1980s, the exhibition includes iconic Dupain photos such as *Sunbaker*, *At Newport* and *Meat Queue* as well as lesser-known still lifes, landscapes, cityscapes, portraits, and beach scenes. Yet what they capture is much deeper. Dupain said: "I've always believed a great photographer should concentrate more on depth of feeling and less on depth of field."

Max Dupain's images presented a new vision in Australian photography, departing sharply from the sentimentality of soft focused nostalgia. He pioneered a Modernist approach of high contrast, sharp focus, dramatic angles and creative compositions. Dupain's images were of ordinary life, but the formal, aesthetic qualities are part of what makes them masterly. His images have become iconic symbols of an Australian way of life.

Despite the familiarity of Dupain's images, and the modern world they represented in his time, there is also a strong sensation that much of what they captured does not exist anymore. His images of rush hour in Sydney in the 30s are gentle by the standards of today. Those of Sydney's beaches exude rest and recreation. From a contemporary perspective, they also show a world free of litter and electronics. People appear present, in the moment, and less aware of the camera's gaze.

Dupain had great faith in his studio manager, Jill White, and bequeathed her his archive of exhibition negatives. This is not something he discussed with her before his death but it has been a tremendous commitment for White. There have been more than 25 major exhibitions of his work since his death and three publications. She made the exhibition prints in her own darkroom from Dupain's negatives.

Reflecting on Dupain and what made him such a great photographer Jill White said: "He knew what it was to make a special picture. It's a gut instinct. An understanding of how a scene might unfold and seeing that image when it does. He was interested in line, form and light. He just had it."

Cover image: Max Dupain, *Tired Soldier*, in North Queensland train 1943, black and white silver gelatin print on photographic paper, printed by Jill White.



Max Dupain, *Morning Rush Hour, Sydney Harbour Bridge* 1938, black and white silver gelatin print on photographic paper, printed by Jill White.



Max Dupain, *Meat Queue* 1946, black and white silver gelatin print on photographic paper, printed by Jill White.

IT'S ALL HAPPENING AT YOUR LOCAL LIBRARY



Your Money and the Law

Goonellabah Library / Monday, 17 May at 10am

Discover organisations and resources to help deal with problems like recovering debts, borrowing or owing money at this free workshop presented by Legal Aid. Bookings 6625 1235.

Your Neighbours and the Law

Lismore Library / Wednesday, 19 May at 10am

Discover information and organisations to help with common neighbour issues like fences, trees, animals and noise at this free workshop presented by Legal Aid. Bookings 6621 2464.

Creative Writing Masterclass

Lismore Library / Thursday 13 & 27 May at 5pm – 6.30pm

Hone your craft with help from well-known authors and industry professionals. We have a primary and a high school group, for young writers from 10 to 18 years. New writers are always welcome. Masterclasses are free and yes, we still serve pizza!

Introduction to the Internet

Lismore Library / Wednesday, 12 May at 10am – 12pm

Aimed at seniors, these free small-group lessons are unhurried, relaxed and informative. Our tech staff will work through at a slow pace and will be happy to answer any questions. To book a place, phone 6621 2464.

Introduction to the Google Suite

Lismore Library / Wednesday, 19 May at 10am to 12pm

Aimed at seniors, these free small group lessons are unhurried, relaxed and informative. Our tech staff will work through at a slow pace and will be happy to answer any questions. To book a place, phone 6621 2464.

Using Google Suite

Lismore Library / Wednesday, 26 May at 10am – 12pm

Aimed at seniors, these free small group lessons are unhurried, relaxed and informative. Our tech staff will work through at a slow pace and will be happy to answer any questions To book a place, phone 6621 2464.

Quilling Group

Lismore Library / Thursday, 20 May at 4.30pm – 6pm

Quilling is the art of manipulating and arranging small strips of paper into detailed designs. It is used to make household decorations and to bring personality to hand-made cards. Whether you are a beginner or you want to expand and share your skills, join us for this relaxed, fun afternoon. Please book ahead on 6621 2464.

Reading for Reconciliation

Lismore Library / Friday, 21 May at 1.30pm – 3pm

Would you like to improve your knowledge and understanding of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander issues and histories? This reading group seeks to assist members of the community to start a reconciliation journey through reading and discussing selected texts in a friendly and informal setting. Many works, though not all, are by Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander authors.

Fire Safety Storytime

Goonellabah Library / Tuesday, 25 May at 10.30am – 12pm

Lismore Library / Wednesday, 26 & Thursday, 27 May at 10.30am – 12pm

The Lismore Fire Brigade is bringing its fire engine to Lismore & Goonellabah Storytimes. We will learn about fire safety. Please bring a hat and outdoor wear.



CONTACT US: 6625 0500

Corporate Centre: 43 Oliver Avenue, Goonellabah

Hours: Monday to Friday, 8.30am to 4.30pm

Post: PO Box 23A, Lismore, NSW 2480

Email: council@lismore.nsw.gov.au

Web: www.lismore.nsw.gov.au



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