

community connect

the newsletter of ballina shire council

COMMUNITY SPIRIT IGNITES IN BALLINA SHIRE

school
holidays
activity guide



Inaugural
ballina prawn
festival
coming up



australia
day awards
nominations
open soon



free child
restraint
checks



twilight
markets
starting



As the weather warms up and daylight hours extend there is a host of community events being held in our beautiful Shire. This issue of Community Connect is packed with interesting ways to get involved with your community.

Bikes, Coffee & Community

Pop up coffee shop - Saturday 21 & Sunday 22
September 8-11am

At the southern entrance to the North Wall, East Ballina.

Social ride - 22 September 9am

(Ballina Loop 11kms)

Register at the pop up coffee shop at 9am sharp.

Get your bike out of the garage and come down to the southern entrance to North Wall in Ballina and celebrate NSW Bike Week.

Roadies, commuters, recreational cyclists, and mountain bikers are all welcome. We are interested in your ideas on how cycling can be safer and more enjoyable in the Ballina Shire.

Grind Date Coffee will provide one **FREE**
COFFEE to each participating cyclist.



Ballina Boat and Leisure Show

28 - 29 September

Marine Rescue Ballina's major fundraiser, the Ballina Boat and Leisure Show, will be on 28-29 September at Fawcett Park, overlooking the beautiful Richmond River.

This is the perfect opportunity for the community to check out what's new in leisure craft, boats, trailers, fishing gear, bait and tackle, safety gear, lifestyle products, caravans and campers, and much more.

Committee Chairman Ken Delaney said the boat show was now in its fourth year.

"This is Marine Rescue Ballina's main fundraiser, and it's really important that people come along on the weekend and support us," he said.

"Our unit is run by volunteers, so it is only with support from the community that we are able to continue with our operations.

"This year we are raising money for our new tower. It is something we have needed for a long time now," Ken said.

Event listings continue on page 4...

Banner image: World Environment Day Lennox Headland
Community Tree Planting. Photo by Tony Partridge



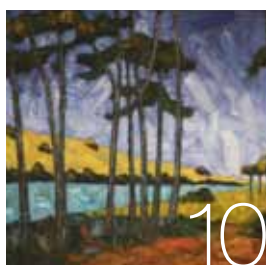
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FROM THE MAYOR'S DESK

Cr David Wright

"I wish to thank all the fabulous organisations that proliferate our Shire for the amazing work they do. We are certainly fortunate in having so many dedicated people working to support those less fortunate or protecting our Shire's unique environment"

The change of season is upon us and soon the new Ballina Surf Club will be in operation. The \$6.2 million facility will be the home of the Ballina Lighthouse and Lismore Surf Lifesaving Club down stairs and the top storey will feature a café/restaurant and large function room available for public hire. A boat storage area and new car park will be completed when the road is realigned. This fabulous building, right on the edge of the ocean, fulfils one of the main promises made by the previous Ballina Shire Council to use a combination of Federal, State and its own resources to develop drastically needed infrastructure for the Shire. I am sure that it will be a very well utilised community facility.

Council is also in the process of finalising plans for the new Marine Rescue Tower that will be constructed as soon as Federal funds are available to match Council's contribution. The building will be a state-



TOP TEN IN STATE

Regional Achievement and Community Awards

Well done to two community groups in the Ballina Shire which are top 10 semi finalists in the Regional Achievement and Community Awards. Tweed Byron Ballina Community Transport has been shortlisted for a Community of the Year Award and the Australian Seabird Rescue organisation has been shortlisted in the Environment and Landcare Award Category.

After 25 years of growth, Tweed Byron Ballina Community Transport provides help and essential transport to schools, the elderly, the physically challenged, Aboriginal communities, social groups and youth organisations.

Australian Seabird Rescue Inc (ASR) maintains vigilant patrols of our beaches, creeks and waterways along the NSW coastline rescuing wildlife, removing tonnes of rubbish and raising public awareness. The organisation also represents regional differences with the south coast specialising in the care of penguins and the far north coast operating the second busiest sea turtle hospital in Australia. ASR's WildlifeLink Sanctuary in Ballina attracts more than 6,000 visitors each year.

The official judging takes place on Thursday 19 September with the gala presentation to be held on Saturday 26 October 2013, when finalists will be awarded \$5,000 from the Commonwealth Bank.

For more information on these organisations and the contribution they make to our community and the environment visit the following websites:

Tweed Byron Ballina Community Transport
community-transport.org.au

Australian Seabird Rescue
seabirdrescue.org



of-the-art facility that will provide a communication and observation workplace for our great volunteers.

Work on Ballina Heights Drive and the Wollongbar Sporting Fields is pressing ahead and combines a \$16 million contribution by Council and the Federal Government. Both projects will greatly enhance the amenity of the residents of the Shire. The sporting fields will house rugby, tennis, netball, cricket and AFL in a purpose built facility. Ballina Heights Drive provides the main link to developing areas in Ballina's future growth centre of Cumbalum.

Development is also occurring in the private sector. The revitalised 'Big Prawn' with its new tail and fabulous colours, now sitting proudly at the Bunnings' Store, is a great advertisement for tourism for Ballina as it can be readily seen from the Ballina Bypass. The store, along with the new Woolworths in River Street, to be completed soon, reflects the confidence major retailers have in the Shire.

BUDGET SUMMARY 2013-2014

For every \$100 Ballina Shire Council spends:

\$42 Major Works and Construction	\$3 Planning and development
\$10 Waste Management	\$5 Property management and airport
\$6 Parks, Recreation and Culture	\$2 Governance
\$10 Maintaining roads, footpaths and drains	\$20 Water and Wastewater Services
\$2 Public safety and environmental health	



Councillors recently walked as a group along the proposed Recreational Coastal Pathway which is currently being assessed by our planning staff. If the planning applications are approved, Councillors will decide which sections of the walkway and the cycleway will be constructed first. Both projects have been in the pipeline for many years and it will be fascinating to witness the two projects join Lennox Head and Ballina for recreational walkers and cyclists. Certainly, some of the best vistas in the State will be on show.

Finally, I congratulate Kevin Hogan for winning the Seat of Page and Justine Elliott for returning as the Member for Richmond. Ballina Shire Council will continue to work with our Federal Government representatives to deliver much needed community projects.



Continued from page 1...

The Ballina Coastal Country Music Festival

4 - 6 October (long weekend)

The Ballina Coastal Country Music Festival will be held on the October long weekend. An opening concert featuring Shane Nicholson, Christie Lamb and Brothers 3 is being held on Friday 4 October at the Ballina RSL Club. The Wolverines will be appearing at Cherry Street Sports Club on Saturday 5 October.

There will be a range of musicians, buskers, novelty acts, street theatre, dancing, children's activities and market stalls in River Street Ballina. Licenced venues in Ballina will host country music performers on Saturday and Sunday.

For more information visit ballinacountrymusic.com or phone Pam Steel on 0427 867 780.

Life weekends held in the Ballina Shire with the community raising an astounding \$451,347.99 for cancer research, prevention, advocacy and support services.

Cancer affects one in two people during their lifetime and touches all our lives.

"People will bring their tents and camp overnight as a community," Cancer Council NSW Community Relations Coordinator, Emily Pettitt said.

"At dusk, we will line the track with candles and messages dedicated to loved ones who have faced cancer in a moving reminder of why we fight cancer," Ms Pettitt said.

Set up a team with friends and colleagues and register to take part in this year's Relay for Life. Visit relayforlife.org.au or phone 1300 65 65 85.



Alstonville Show Week

19 - 27 October

The Lions and Apex Clubs of Alstonville, along with the Alstonville Show Society are again organising the annual Alstonville Show Week. It will run from 19 - 27 October 2013. The week will start with a community day in the Alstonville Plaza on Saturday and an arts and craft market in the main street on Sunday. Other activities include the Heartfelt House garage sale, a trivia night, wine tasting, Miss Showgirl dinner, the Alstonville Walking Trail and a floral display.

The week will conclude with the 125th Alstonville Show - two days of nonstop activities at the Showground including live entertainment, bull rides, dog trials, horse events, side show alley, fireworks and displays.

Alstonville Show Week is all about building a community festival we can be proud of. If you are a not-for-profit community group and would like to run an event, be involved in the arts and craft market or be part of our community day at the plaza, phone Les Wiles on 66285161 or email alstonvillelions@hotmail.com.



Ballina Shire Relay For Life

Tipped to topple \$500k and help save more lives
2 - 3 November

The Ballina Shire Relay For Life is back again in 2013, celebrating the lives of cancer survivors, remembering loved ones lost to cancer and supporting people fighting the disease. There have been eight Relay for

The inaugural Ballina Prawn Festival

Celebrating 40 Years of Las Balsas
Saturday 16 November

The Ballina Prawn Festival is a new event and will be an iconic celebration of the rich character and unique features of Ballina, home of the Big Prawn. The festival will be focusing on celebrating the 40th anniversary of the Las Balsas expedition – the longest multiple raft voyage in global history from Ecuador in South America to Ballina.

To celebrate the expedition there will be free screenings of the Las Balsas documentary at Ballina Fair Cinema in the two weeks leading up to the festival as well as a Civic Dinner on Friday 15 November hosted by Ballina Shire Council and Rotary Club of Ballina on Richmond.

The festival program will include:

- Boat muster on the Richmond River involving recreational boaters
- DIY raft building competitions and river races
- Prawn shelling and eating contest
- The Ballina signature prawn dish competition
- Model raft show and arts exhibition
- Naval & Maritime Museum open day and educational tours
- Local artisan markets and eat street
- Live entertainment, children's rides and fireworks spectacular

If you would like to participate in activities or sponsor the event phone the project team at the Ballina Chamber of Commerce and Industry on 6681 5049.



Second Hand Saturday

16th November

The biggest garage sale day on the North Coast is on the morning of the inaugural Prawn Festival.

Residents can hold their own garage sale at home, or coordinate a joint garage sale in their street, or with their local school, preschool, community organisation or church.

There will be a free listing of garage sale locations in the Ballina Advocate as well as online.

Council's Waste Educator Kate Pye said choosing the same day of the festival had unique benefits. Residents can get rid of their unwanted goods and make some money early in the day, then head to the festival with more money in their pockets to enjoy the festivities which will run into the evening.



The two events on this one day make it the biggest day of the year in Ballina.

Garage sale holders can register online from 7 October at mysecondhandsaturday.com.au

Ballina Shire Northern Star Business Excellence Awards

19 October

The Ballina Shire Business Awards will be held on the 19 October 2013 at the Ballina RSL Club. The awards are organised by Ballina Chamber of Commerce and Industry to recognise and reward outstanding business excellence in the Ballina Shire, promote a climate of pride and celebrate local business operators who contribute so much to our economy.

This year's awards feature three categories:

- Business Excellence Awards
- Mystery Shop Awards
- People's Choice Awards.

Get in quick as entries close in late September!

ballinabusinessawards.com.au



COMMUNITY EVENT SIGNAGE

Recognising the importance of being able to promote community events, Ballina Shire Council has recently installed signage infrastructure at nine locations across the Shire. These posts are available free of charge to organisers of not-for-profit community events. The designs must be of a professional quality and pre-approved by Council officers.

Since being installed in July this year, the posts have been used to promote the Ballina Fine Wine & Food Fair, Skullcandy Oz Grom Open and the Ballina Markets.

For more information go to Council's website or phone 6686 4444.

Ballina Twilight Markets

Thursday evenings during daylight savings
Commencing 17 October 2013

Fawcett Park, Ballina 4.00pm - 8.00pm

The heart of Ballina will come alive every Thursday night during daylight savings with the vibrant sounds and tempting aromas emanating from the Ballina Twilight Markets.

Spend some family time outdoors as the sun sets on the banks of the Richmond River. Children can play in the park while you sit back, enjoy the relaxed social setting and have a delicious meal, followed by some sweet treats.

Bring your shopping basket and sample local produce, browse through arts and crafts and be entertained by local musicians.

Ballina Twilight Markets – taste, see, just be.

Further information contact:

Kellie Pinkerton

0407 668 398

events@helirescue.com.au



PORT BALLINA TASKFORCE FORMED

For many years there has been talk of developing a marina on the Richmond River and Council has formed the Port Ballina Taskforce to try to assist the State Government deliver improved marine infrastructure and marine environments in Ballina.

The Taskforce will specifically look at dredging of the bar, boat harbour, the proposed marina, North Creek and the overall health of the Richmond River.

The Taskforce includes Councillors Keith Williams, Paul Worth and Mayor David Wright, and representatives from the Ballina Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Ballina Fishermen's Co-op and the NSW Department of Premier and Cabinet.

Nominations for community representatives have now closed and the current Taskforce members will appoint one or two community representatives at the next Taskforce meeting.



COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE - *MEETING NEEDS ACROSS THE SHIRE*

Council has a number of major community infrastructure projects underway or being planned:

Ballina Surf Club (\$6.2m)

The Surf Club component of this project is completed and Council is now in negotiations to determine a preferred tenant for the café. We are hopeful the café may be operating by Christmas. Other works still to be completed include the re-alignment of Compton Drive and the construction of the new car park, both of which will be finished by Christmas. The building of a new storage/boat shed will start early next year.



Wollongbar Sports Fields (\$7.3m)

This \$7 million sports complex which includes four new football fields, a cricket/AFL field, tennis and netball courts is scheduled to be finished by mid 2014. A large part of the earthworks have already been completed.

Ballina Heights Drive (\$9m)

This new major road link for Ballina Heights connects to the Tamarind Drive roundabout at Ballina Heights and will open up a significant amount of new residential land, as well as providing a convenient link to the new commercial centre proposed for this estate.



Marine Rescue Tower (\$1.8m)

Final designs are in the process of being prepared for a new Marine Rescue Tower at Ballina's North Wall. We expect the plans to be lodged in the next two to three months and once a planning approval is obtained we will be pursuing grant and other funding opportunities to allow the project to be delivered during 2014.



Lennox Head Surf Club and Lake Ainsworth (Project cost to be determined)

Council currently has approximately \$1.5 million available for improvements to the eastern side of Lake Ainsworth, including the closure of the access road, which will be replaced by walking paths and picnic areas as per the adopted

Master Plan for Lake Ainsworth. The closure of the road will mean all traffic to the Sports and Recreation Camp will need to use the Camp Drew Road. We currently have expert consultants talking to all the various stakeholder groups who use this location, to determine the preferred options for the long term future of the Lennox Head Surf Club (i.e. renovate or redevelop) as well as the final design for the improvements to the eastern side of Lake Ainsworth.

Coastal Shared Path and Recreational Walk (Project cost \$4m to \$6m)

Planning applications for the various approvals for this project are currently being assessed by Council staff and, with more than \$1.4 million in funding available, as soon as we obtain the approvals we intend to start construction work immediately.

Ballina Sports/Events Stadium (Project cost to be determined)

Council is continuing to examine preferred options for this project and at this time we only have funding available to obtain planning approvals once the preferred location and design are determined. Once planning approvals are obtained Council will be in a better position to lobby the State and Federal Government for grant funding for the project.

Ballina Swimming Pool (\$2m to \$4m)

Council has a high priority for the delivery of an indoor 25 metre pool at the existing facility, along with other infrastructure improvements. Currently, we do not have funds set aside for the project, however we have land for sale that, if sold, will allow us to finalise the designs and seek planning approvals. This will help Council access funds for the project.

If you would like more information about any of the projects phone Council on 6686 4444.

*From top: Ballina Surf Club, Wollongbar Sports Fields, Artist's rendering of the new Marine Rescue Tower, Shared path at Lennox Head
Below: Opening celebrations at the Ballina Surf Club*





Rebecca Wilson
(pictured with son, Remy)

What do you like about living in Ballina Shire?

I love the family-friendly facilities that surround our waterways including BBQ areas, playgrounds and walking/bike paths.

What is the one thing that you think the Council should do to improve the lifestyle you have in Ballina Shire?

The playground at Missingham Bridge has had a new roof and new equipment added. I therefore think Council is already making improvements that impact on my lifestyle and I hope it continues to do so when and where it can.

Council's Response

Council is committed to on-going improvements to our playgrounds and parks and over the last five years we have implemented a program of installing new facilities and infrastructure in a large number of our parks. This program is largely completed and our works program is now focusing on improving and enhancing the existing playground equipment.



Allan Johnston

What do you like about living in Ballina Shire?

Open environment and friendly people.

What is the one thing that you think the Council should

do to improve the lifestyle you have in Ballina Shire?

Encourage and support all sporting clubs to organise events, carnivals etc. Develop tourism and keep our youth active and involved in the community. Kids in sport are not in court!

Council's Response

We agree active sport is a major part of our Shire and we are currently undertaking major sporting field improvements through the construction of new sports fields at Wollongbar and the expansion of the Saunders Oval fields in Ballina. We have purchased land to expand the Skennars Head Sports Fields and remain hopeful that the Ballina Heights and Pacific Pines sports fields will be finished in the next 12 to 18 months. Council is reliant on the developers for the delivery of these last two projects.

We want to provide other community infrastructure that promotes an active lifestyle, such as the long awaited coastal shared path between Ballina and Lennox Head and improvements to the Ballina Swimming Pool. We would also like to provide an indoor sports and events centre. This last project will need a healthy injection of State or Federal Government grant funding.



Morgan Blakey

What do you like about living in Ballina Shire?

It is a small community and you pretty much know everyone around town, and it's a friendly town.

What is the one thing that you think the Council should do to improve the lifestyle you have in Ballina Shire?

We need more things for younger people to do, including attracting more people from out

of the area to come and stay here rather than at Byron Bay.

Council's Response

This is a complex one as we do benefit by being located near Byron Bay, which to be fair has an international reputation. We are committed to providing infrastructure that not only benefits local residents but also attracts visitors to our Shire. A good example of this is the new Ballina Surf Club, which once fully completed, with a café operating, will provide a destination for visitors.

As residents of the Ballina Shire many of us occasionally choose to visit Byron Bay rather than live there. From a tourism perspective we are now seeing more and more people stay in the Ballina Shire as our facilities and services expand. People still visit Byron Bay but often don't stay there for the whole holiday.

We need to provide more community infrastructure, such as the shared path, to attract visitors, and we need to work with business owners to ensure our facilities meet visitor demands.

We are always seeking feedback on options to attract more people to our Shire and any feedback would be appreciated by our Tourism staff who can be contacted at the Visitor Information Centre.



Kathy Purcell

What do you like about living in Ballina Shire?

Beautiful beaches and a majestic river embracing the edge of town. Fantastic walking tracks. Friendly, relaxed people.

What is the one thing that you think the Council should do to improve the lifestyle you have in Ballina Shire?

The Council should build a Marina. River Street is dying.

If Ballina had a Marina the streets would be busy, shops, restaurants, cafes bars and clubs would be patronised. A Marina would bring life back to our town.

Council's Response

It is unfortunate that we occasionally hear the statement that "River Street is dying" and it is not a view that we share in Council. Main streets in town centres, around the world, are struggling to retain their high profile in this age of on-line shopping and competition from larger retail complexes such as Ballina Fair and Ballina Central that move retail businesses out of the town centre.

We are continually researching ideas and strategies implemented by other councils and businesses and we remain confident that River Street will remain the heart of our Shire.

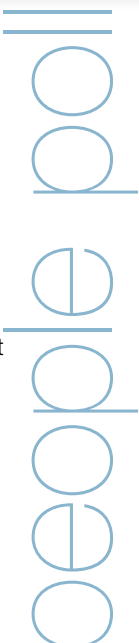
Woolworths has confidence in River Street having invested more than \$10 million in its new supermarket, which will be 50% bigger than the store that was damaged by fire. We look forward to the new store opening late this year.

Council has purchased two properties in Tamar Street to provide additional carparking. These properties will be demolished shortly and the construction of the carpark, and public toilets will provide a boost.

We are also planning renovations to the Wigmore Arcade complex which should provide another boost to the town centre.

A marina is something we have been promoting with the NSW Department of Lands, the owner of most of the river foreshore. Prior to the global financial crisis the Department tried to obtain private investment to build a marina, but unfortunately this was unsuccessful.

A marina is a high risk and complex commercial venture and from a Council perspective it is considered too risky to invest public money. We have formed the Port Ballina Taskforce, which you can read about on page 5 of this edition. The Taskforce representatives will work together to assist the State Government in delivering improved marine infrastructure for Ballina.





What to do during the *School Holidays*

Looking for something to do with the kids or grandchildren over the September school holidays? It's all happening in the Ballina Shire with lots of sporty, fun, creative and educational activities to keep the kids entertained.

MAKE A SPLASH

Richmond River Cruises

Historical cruise on the Richmond River

When: Saturday 21 September from 9.30am to 3pm

Where: Richmond River Princess Cruise, Richmond River, Ballina
Bookings: 1800 777 666
Ask at Ballina Visitor Information Centre for cruise dates. Cruise includes tea break.

Cost is \$15 Kids, \$30 adults.

GET CREATIVE

Northern Rivers Community Gallery

Digby Moran Workshop (7-12 years)

Paint your own canvas
Thursday 26 September
10-11:30am or 12:30-2pm
\$15 bookings required.

Hannah Masey (5-12 years)

Textured Papers and Paint
Thursday 3 October
10-11:30am or 12:30-2pm
\$15 bookings required.

Just drop in (all ages)

Create your own mini-artwork.
21-29 Sept and 2-6 Oct
\$3 per blank card. Parents must supervise at all times.

44 Cherry Street, Ballina
Ph: 6681 6167

More information about the workshops can be found on p.10

The Kids Shed

Craft, printmaking, sculpture and drawing
Tues, Wed and Thurs both weeks 10am -12.30pm
\$25 per class. Bookings required.

The Drawing Room
52 Norton Street Ballina
Ph: 0402 416 782

Delstrong Art

Pond Life Workshops

1-4 Oct 10am until 12 noon
\$20 per class. Bookings required.
Delstrongart at 88a Main Street Alstonville Ph: 6628 1749

Ballina Library Workshops

Bookings Ph: 6686 2831

Lennox Head Library

Mini Koinobori - Japanese Flying Carp (6-12 years)

Thursday 26 September
10-11:30am
Bookings required 6687 6398

Grass Heads (6-12 years)

Thursday 3 October
10-11:30am
Bookings required
6687 6398.



Lennox Head Kidz Klub

Wed, Thurs, Fri over both weeks.
9.30am - 12.30pm and/or
1.00pm - 4.00pm
\$20 per child per session or
\$40 full day. Pre-registration essential.
Lennox Head Cultural & Community Centre
Ph: 6687 6291.



Pre's to Teens Disco - Club Lennox

Friday 20 September
Session 1 (4-8 years): 5.30-7.00pm \$5 per person or \$10 per family.
Session 2 (8-15 years): 7.30 - 9.30pm \$7 per person.
Lennox Head Cultural & Community Centre
Ph: 0402 768 967.

EDUCATIONAL

Australian Seabird Rescue Tours

School holiday tours

From 10am daily
Mon 30 Sept - Fri 4 Oct
Mon 7 Oct - Fri 11 Oct
264 North Creek Road, Ballina
Ph: 6686 2852

Ballina Naval & Maritime Museum

Open daily from 9am to 4pm
Adults \$5 Kids \$2 Entry
Regatta Avenue, Ballina
Ph: 6681 1002

Thursday Plantation

Open weekdays from 9am-5pm
and weekends 10am-4pm
Gallans Road, Ballina
Ph: 6620 5150

Signature Tableclothes

Crawford House Museum
Until 29 September 2013
Adults \$2.50 Children Free
Sundays 1-4pm
Ph: 6628 1829

SPORTY ACTION

Lake Ainsworth Adventure Camp

5 day camp 23 - 27 September
7-12 years cost \$311.50
Ph: 13 13 02
Email: sportrec@communities.nsw.gov.au

Classic Aero Adventure Flights

Take a scenic flight in a
Genuine ex-RAAF war bird plane
Departs Ballina-Byron Gateway
Airport Ph: 0432 318 282

Scenic Coastal Flights

Byron Bay Air Charters

Departs Ballina - Byron Gateway
Airport Ph: 6686 4876

Learn to fly a helicopter!

Air T & G

Now taking on new students*
call or email for a joy flight.
Ph: 6681 4915
mail@airtg.com.au

*age conditions apply

Tassiriki Ranch Beach Horse Riding

Daily beach horse riding tours
Tassiriki Ranch
Moylans Lane Empire Vale
Ph: 6683 4602

Streetwise Skate Demo

Learn how to skate
Free demonstrations
Missingham Park, Ballina
sba.org.au

FAMILY FUN

Amaze N Place

Free alpaca feeding every day
at 11am plus lattice maze,
puzzles and café
SCHOOL HOLIDAYS ONLY!
149 Wardell Road, Alstonville
Ph: 6628 6286

Summerland House Farm

Guided plantation tour on the
tractor, water park,
gardens, playground, heritage
cottage, The Grocer and
mini golf. Open daily 9am -4pm
253 Wardell Road, Alstonville
Ph: 6628 0610

Macadamia Castle

Open Daily from 9am-5pm.
Full program of daily activities
including animal feeding
1699 Pacific Highway,
Knockrow Ph: 6687 8432

Ballina Tenpin Bowl

Open daily with Glow in the
Dark Bowling from 12noon-4pm
HOLIDAY SPECIAL - 2 games
for \$14
16 Clark Street
Ballina Ph: 6686 5342

Teven Valley Golf Course

1684 Eltham Road, Teven
Ph: 6687 8386

Sunrise Cycles

Hire a bike and ride Ballina's
cycleways and shared paths
3 Hogan Street
Ballina Ph: 6686 6322

Transition Cycles

Hire a bike and ride Ballina's
cycleways and shared paths
49 River Street
Ballina Ph: 6686 6522

Note: calendar compiled as at 6 September. For an updated school holiday activity sheet visit **discoveballina.com** or phone 1800 777 666



SWIM SAFELY THIS SUMMER Lifeguard Patrols

With the start of the warmer weather contracted surf lifesavers and volunteers are again patrolling beaches in the Ballina Shire. For your safety please swim between the flags.

Patrols normally operate from 9.00am to 5.00pm.

Beach	Patrols start	Patrols finish
Lennox Head Beach	23/09/2013	26/04/2014
Sharpes Beach	21/09/13 21/12/13 12/04/14	07/10/13 27/01/14 27/04/14
Shelly Beach	21/09/13 21/12/13 12/04/14	07/10/13 27/01/14 27/04/14
Lighthouse Beach	23/09/13 23/12/13 14/04/14	04/10/13 24/01/14 25/04/14

Up-to-date beach and surf safety information is now at your fingertips. Download the free app from beachsafe.org.au. The app gives updates on conditions at more than 11,000 Australian beaches.

BeachSafe is brought to you by Surf Life Saving Australia.



RISING STARS SCHOLARSHIP

Southern Cross University Rising Stars Scholarships 2014

Ballina Shire Council is a proud supporter of the Southern Cross University Rising Stars Scholarship Program.

Southern Cross University (SCU) is currently seeking applications for the 2014 scholarships.

Applications for the Council Scholarship are open to Ballina Shire residents wanting to study a fulltime undergraduate degree at Southern Cross University. The scholarship is for \$5,000 per year for three years.

For further information visit scu.edu.au/risingstars or contact SCU's Scholarships Office on Ph 02 6620 3313.



*Rising Stars Scholarship Award Ceremony 2013.
From left; Vice Chancellor Prof Peter Lee, Sharnie Flanagan-Boyd and Timothy McQuade*

Applications close
31 December 2013.



Volunteers and Council staff working hard at World Environment Day Lennox Headland Community Tree Planting. Photos by Tony Partridge



OBJECT OF THE STORY - gallery exhibition

The Object of the Story exhibition focuses on Aboriginal stories about place told by both Aboriginal community members and other people close to them.

These stories are related through photographic portraits and objects. Objects have been used throughout the process of bringing the exhibition together to trigger participants' memories, and in some cases invite the telling of stories that may have not been told before.



Digby Moran (Photo by: Michael Aird)

There is also an exhibition of paintings and ceramics by three sisters and friends, Wendy Knight, Emma Walke and Leah Walke, called *Tiddas*. *Tiddas* is the word used for 'sisters' in Aboriginal language. Each of the artists has created individual works and they have come together to share their stories, art practices and ideas to produce a collaborative work.

Tiddas and *Object of the Story* continue until 29 September.

GALLERY WORKSHOPS FOR KIDS

The Gallery will host two programs for children during the September school holidays. There is a range of art making activities for children including self-guided drop in activities available anytime during the holidays (during Gallery hours).

There are also artist-run workshops that require booking and prepayment. In week one the artist-run workshops will be presented by Digby Moran and in week two they will be presented by Hannah Massey. Please phone the Gallery for more details, bookings and payment.

The Northern Rivers Community Gallery is located on the corner of Cherry and Crane Streets Ballina and is open Wednesday to Friday from 10am until 4pm and weekends between 9.30am – 2.30pm. The Gallery is closed on public holidays and entry is free. For all enquires phone the Gallery on 6681 6167.

EXHIBITIONS: 2 - 27 October 2013

Table Manners

Group Show (Northern Rivers)

This exhibition is a visual feast exploring the creative possibilities of dining related art. Using unique settings for the ritual of sharing food, a stylist brings together ceramics, sculpture, paintings, textiles, furniture and ikebana.

Ceramics: Suvira McDonald, Malcolm Greenwood, Sue Fraser

Paintings: Gaty Kelly

Textiles: Kirsten Ingemar

Ikebana: Di Morrison

Furniture: Danny Saks, Suvira McDonald, Malcolm Greenwood

Styling by Monique Guterres of Seaweed Cuisine



From the Coast to the Paddock

Michael Chapus (Lismore)

Michael Chapus shares his paintings of places explored on his regular walks through local landscapes along beaches, rivers and paddocks.

Corpus Memoriae

Hannah Massey (Mullumbimby)

Hannah Massey has created mixed media collages inspired by cultural myths that have formed stories, identities and meanings in our collective memory.



Rocococolossal

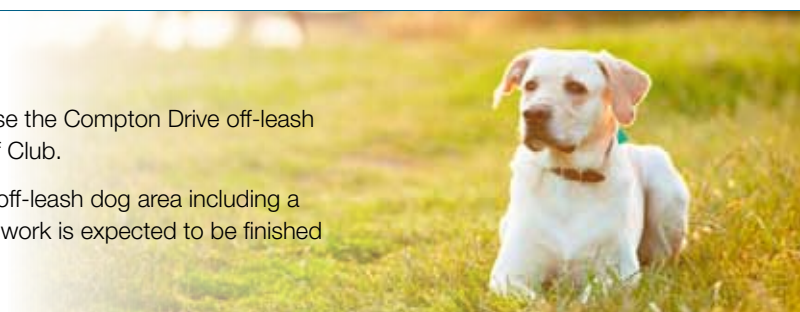
Amanda Bromfield (Lennox Head)

Amanda Bromfield's ceramic sculptures playfully mock the beautiful women of the 17th century Rococo era. In a time of frivolity and extravagance, these Rococo girls were the ultimate consumers with big hair, voluminous dresses and personalities to match.

COMPTON DRIVE OFF LEASH AREAS

Apologies to dog owners but Council has had to temporarily close the Compton Drive off-leash dog exercise area to complete roadworks near the new Ballina Surf Club.

A new carpark is being built and there will be improvements to the off-leash dog area including a water bubbler, rubbish bin and roadside fencing. The construction work is expected to be finished in November 2013.





MORE AWARDS FOR AUSTRALIA DAY

Nominations for the 2014 Ballina Shire Australia Day Awards will open on Monday 21 October 2013. The awards program recognises and celebrates the achievements of outstanding members of our community.

Council is excited to announce several new awards in 2014. There are now seven categories for recognition:

- Young Citizen of the Year (30 years or under)
- Citizen of the Year
- Senior Citizen of the Year (60 years or over)
- Volunteer of the Year
- Sports Award (individual or team)
- Arts/Cultural Award
- Community Event of the Year

Council is seeking nominations for people or organisations in the community in each category. All nominees must be Australian citizens and reside within the Ballina Shire. Nominees will be judged on the level of personal achievement or commitment to community service. The winners of the awards will be announced at the official Australia Day ceremony on Sunday 26 January 2014 at the Lennox Head Cultural & Community Centre.

Award nomination forms can be downloaded from **discoverballina.com** or collected from Council's Customer Service Centre, 40 Cherry Street, Ballina. Nominations close Sunday 22 December 2013.

Australia Day Community Event Program - Get involved

Expressions of interest are also being sought from schools, chambers of commerce, community organisations and individuals who would like to be involved on the day. Groups may like to use the event as an opportunity to fundraise through running a community barbecue, boost recruitment numbers or provide an educational display. Schools are also encouraged to nominate to perform as a choir or dance group at the official ceremony.

To express your interest, complete an application form and email holly@ballina.nsw.gov.au or fax 6686 7035. To download an application form, visit **discoverballina.com** or collected from Council's Customer Service Centre from Monday 21 October. Expressions of interest close Friday 13 December 2013.

For more information phone Council's Events & Grants Support Officer, Holly Archibald on 6686 4444.

SWIM INTO SUMMER AT THE BALLINA AND ALSTONVILLE POOLS

Summer is almost here so take the opportunity to get fit and meet new people at your local pool.

Season tickets are available for the Ballina and Alstonville pools and they can be used at either pool. EFTPOS facilities are available.

Alstonville Heated Pool

Ph 6628 0826

Mon to Fri 6.00am to 6.00pm

Sat 8.00am to 6.00pm

Sun and Public Holidays 10.00am to 6.00pm

Ballina Memorial Swimming Pool

Ph 6686 3771

Mon to Fri 6.00am to 6.00pm

Sat 8.00am to 6.00pm

Sun and Public Holidays 9.00am to 6.00pm



FREE CHILD RESTRAINT SAFETY CHECKS

Ballina Shire Council, in partnership with Dancers Car Care, a local RMS authorised restraint fitter, is offering \$30 vouchers to local families for a free child restraint safety check or installation.

Parents and carers living in the Ballina Shire can visit Ballina Shire Council's Customer Service Centre to collect a free voucher to have your child restraint, harness and booster seat checked or installed for free.

Using a correctly fitted and age appropriate restraint greatly increases a child's safety in a crash. A research study, funded by the RMS, has shown that children who are restrained incorrectly are up to seven times more likely to be seriously injured in a crash than children who are restrained correctly.

Residents who are not able to collect a voucher can phone Jodie Hewett, Road Safety Officer on 6686 4444. The child restraint vouchers are valid until 30 June 2014 and conditions apply.

WATCH THIS SPACE...

Keep a lookout for a structure currently being built by the Rotary Club of Ballina on Richmond. It will be installed in the Arrivals Lounge of the Ballina Byron Gateway Airport. The only clue we can give is; it has something to do with Ballina's maritime history. It will be installed in time to commemorate the inaugural Prawn Festival in November.



Ballina Shire Council Achievements 2012/2013

Council's achievements for 2012/13 are grouped according to the four key themes outlined in our Community Strategic Plan (CSP) they are Connected Community, Prosperous Economy, Healthy Environment and Engaged Leadership.



CONNECTED COMMUNITY

Affordable Housing



Commenced Building Better Regional Cities Program in Wollongbar that provides a \$25,000 rebate for people on low to moderate incomes. Twenty-nine applications were received during the year with seven grants taken up by applicants.

Cemeteries

Construction of the Alstonville Niche Wall.

Coastal Shared Path & Walk

Completed planning applications for missing segments with applications now lodged with development assessment staff. These applications involved significant consultation with the Aboriginal community along with an analysis of the environmental impacts.

Community Properties

- Upgrade to Lennox Head Rural Fire Service Shed
- Improvements to Girl Guides Hall
- Alstonville Leisure and Entertainment Centre enhancements
- Alstonville and Ballina Swimming Pools WHS improvements
- Lennox Head Cultural and Community Centre equipment
- Transfer of Wardell Hall from Private Trust to ensure community retains ownership of the hall.

Festival & Event Support Program

Erected signage poles in high profile locations to allow community groups to promote events at no cost.

Provided direct financial support of \$50,000 to the:

- Ballina Coastal Country Music Festival
- Skullcandy Oz Grom Open
- Ballina Fine Food and Wine Festival
- Summerland House Farm Country Fair
- Ballina Boat and Leisure Show.



PROSPEROUS ECONOMY

Ballina Byron Gateway Airport



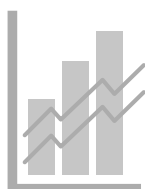
- Apron extension providing for two additional jet parking bays and two additional taxiways (\$5.5 m)
- Upgrades to terminal awning, CCTV, storage containers, fencing, drainage, departure lounge toilets
- Completed Terminal Area Master Plan
- Completed design for new car park and asphalt overlay for runway 06/24.

Car Parking

- Purchased two properties in Tamar Street, Ballina that will provide an additional 70 car parks.

Commercial Properties

- Completed planning proposal for Southern Cross Precinct Master Plan to allow provision for additional industrial land.



HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT

Environmental Education

- Established Environmental Heritage Pop Up Shop in partnership with Ballina Coastcare, Northern Rivers Wildlife Carers and Rous Water to present displays and workshops focusing on our environmental heritage.



Environmental Education

- Council organised a series of debates to coincide with World Environment Day. Students from years 5-8 debated issues facing our local and global environment including climate change, river health and water usage.

Floodplain Management

- Adopted Floodplain Risk Management Study.

Stormwater Management

- Completed stormwater management plan for the Shire.

Street Lighting

- Retrofitted all street lighting with energy efficient bulbs.

ENGAGED LEADERSHIP

Compliance

- Completed 2012/2013 Compliance Work Program with focus on major developments and high risk areas.

E-Services

- Council went live on 19 June 2013 with the NSW Planning Electronic Housing Code

- Transferred development applications from 1 January 2013 to electronic record
- Online tablet-based environment for field staff which will result in less paperwork, more consistent processes, and improved accountability.

Integrated Planning & Reporting

- Conducted external organisation review to determine preferred structure for new term of Council
- Completed Annual Internal Audit Program with external provider completing six audits of Council functional areas





Footpaths and Shared Pathways

Construction / improvements to

- The Avenue
- Skennars Head Road
- West Ballina Bunnings
- Ballina Fair
- Chickiba Drive
- Headlands Drive.

Northern Rivers Community Gallery

The Northern Rivers Community Gallery presented 13 exhibitions with attendance numbers and income reaching record levels.

Open Spaces and Reserves

Improvements to:

- Lennox Head Foreshore
- Kellie Anne Crescent Park
- Chickiba Park
- Pat Morton Lookout
- Missingingham Bridge Skate Park.

Roads - Bridges

- Gibson Creek Bridge, Eltham Road
- Teven Bridges, Teven (total cost \$9m)
- Yellow Creek Bridge, Wardell Road.

Road - Rural

Construction projects:

- Ballina Road / Teven Road Intersection
- Cumbalum Culvert Replacement
- Cumbalum Interchange
- McLeay Culvert
- Midgen Flat Road
- Pimlico Road
- Rifle Range Road
- Ross Lane
- Tuckombil Road



- Wardell Road (Bagotville to Lumleys)
- Wardell Road.

Roads - Urban

Construction projects:

- Alstonville Bypass – Improvements
- Bentinck / Norton Street, Ballina
- Byron Street, Lennox Head
- Canal Road, Ballina
- Coast Road - Landslip
- Links Avenue, East Ballina
- Martin Street, Ballina.

Sports Fields

Screening of Williams Reserve and new lights at Kingsford Smith Oval.

Water Transport

Refurbishments and improvements to:

- Ferry Ramp
- Cawarra Street Boat Ramp
- Emigrant Creek Boat Ramp.

Depot

- Completed construction of small plant building to allow expansion of operations.

Tourism

- Developed the Discover Ballina Passport Campaign through New England and South East Queensland.



Town Centre

- Alstonville Town Centre – Finalisation of upgrade – total project cost \$2.5 million.



- Ballina Town Centre – completed Stage Two between Cherry and Martin Streets (excluding Martin Street roundabout) – Total project cost \$3.5m.



Waste Management

- Offered residents the opportunity to dispose of their old analogue televisions for free when the analogue signal was switched off (received 50 tonnes of waste).



- Undertook Community Satisfaction survey to confirm priorities for community in development of Community Strategic Plan
- Finalised new Community Strategic Plan following significant community consultation

- Let tenders for the transport of general waste to Queensland.

Wastewater

- Upgrades to the Lennox Head and Ballina Wastewater Treatment Plants.



Strategic Planning

- Ballina Local Growth Management Strategy adopted
- Gazettal of Ballina LEP 2012
- Ballina Shire DCP 2012 adopted.

Work Health and Safety

- Completed Person conducting a business undertaking (PCBU) Handbook.



SUMMARY OF COUNCIL PROJECTS PLANNED FOR 2013/14



Community Facilities

- Completion of new Ballina Surf Club
- Site evaluation and design of new Regional Sports Centre
- Design and approval of new Ballina Marine Rescue Centre.

Ranger Services

- Construction of new Animal Shelter in Ballina.

Roads – Rural construction

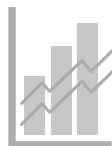
- Uralba Road.

Roads – Urban construction

- Tamar Street, Ballina
- Chickiba Drive, Ballina.

Sports Fields

- Expansion of Saunders Oval, Ballina
- Construction of Wollongbar Sports Fields.



PROSPEROUS ECONOMY

Commercial Properties

- Wigmore Arcade Redevelopment.

Growth Areas

- Construction of Ballina Heights Drive to improve access to Ballina Heights Estate for residential and commercial property.



HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT

Stormwater Management

- Drainage upgrades at Megan Crescent, Lennox Head.

Waste Management

- Establishment of biochar pyrolysis plant for Ballina.

Wastewater

- Ballina Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade
- Construction of recycled water pipeline for dual reticulation
- Construction of new water reservoir for Ballina Heights.



ENGAGED LEADERSHIP

Strategic Planning

- Complete Cultural Plan for the Shire
- Complete shire wide ageing strategy
- Implement new asset information management system
- Prepare master plan for Captain Cook Park, Clark Street Ballina and Kingsford Smith Fields.



BALLINA TO HOST 2014 AUSTRALIAN COASTAL COUNCILS' CONFERENCE

Ballina Shire Council will host the 2014 Australian Coastal Councils' Conference in March 2014.

The conference is organised by the National Sea Change Taskforce and is expected to attract between 100 – 150 delegates.

The National Sea Change Taskforce is a national body that represents

the interests of coastal councils and communities. The Taskforce aims to provide leadership in addressing the impact of the 'sea change' phenomenon and to provide support and guidance to coastal councils attempting to manage the impact of rapid growth.



NATIONAL SEA CHANGE
TASKFORCE



HISTORIC FLOOD PHOTOGRAPHS

In a previous issue of **Community Connect** we asked people who had photos of flood events in and around Ballina to share them with us. Thank you to everyone who contacted Council.

We have now put together an electronic photo gallery on our website which includes the photos sent in by Ballina Shire residents, as well as photos from the Blackwall Historical Society, the Richmond River Historical Society and the local history room at the Ballina Library.

The gallery features photos of different flood events in Ballina Shire from North Creek to Wardell. The earliest photograph is from 1893 and this is accompanied by a newspaper article dated 1 January 1893. There are also images from the 1954, 1974 and 1976 floods.

The flood photos gallery can be viewed at Ballina Shire Council's website ballina.nsw.gov.au (under the Environment tab).

If you have photographs to add to the gallery please phone Council's Sustainability Programs Coordinator, Suzanne Acret on 6686 1284 or email council@ballina.nsw.gov.au.



Photo: Mrs Lynne Dollery, 1976, West Ballina.



NEW ART IN COUNCIL FOYER

Next time you are in the Council building in Cherry Street have a look at the new artwork by the Saltwater Women which is on display in the foyer.

In 2012 Council invited Expressions of Interest from Aboriginal community members to produce an artwork design for installation in the foyer of Council's Customer Service Centre in Ballina. A key aim of the project was to recognise the significance of Aboriginal people and culture in our Shire.

The Saltwater Women's art group started in July 2004 and was given a traditional name by a respected Bundjalung Elder, Gehi Yubay Dubay (Saltwater Women). The group meets every week at the Bunjum Community Centre.

The women have a strong bond within their community and tell stories of their shared history. Many of the women grew up on Cabbage Tree Island.



PROTECTING THE RICHMOND RIVER

The Richmond River is the lifeblood of Ballina Shire and Council is committed to ensuring the ongoing health of the river.

We are working with the Richmond River County Council on an 'Ecohealth' water quality project in the Richmond River estuary and its tributaries.

Ecohealth is a program developed by the Northern Rivers Catchment Management Authority which assesses the health of a river and estuary using a standard set of indicators. These indicators measure water quality and the populations of fish and other creatures living in the river.

Monitoring is undertaken over a twelve month period, and will begin in early September 2013. Once monitoring is complete, a report card will be published showing the health of the river and its tributaries for the period. The Ecohealth project is designed to be repeated every three years to monitor changes over time.

UPCOMING EVENTS

BIKE WEEK

22 September

Social Ride and Free Coffee 9am
Southern Entrance to North Wall,
East Ballina
Jodie Hewitt 6686 4444

BALLINA BOAT & LEISURE SHOW

28 -29 September

Fawcett Park, Ballina
Ken Delaney 0417 072 224
Peter McMahon 0414 668 605
vmrballina.com/boat-show

BALLINA COASTAL COUNTRY MUSIC FESTIVAL

4 - 6 October (long weekend)

Saturday River Street CBD and all
licenced venues Saturday & Sunday
Pam Steel 0427 867 780
ballinacountrymusic.com

ALSTONVILLE SHOW WEEK

19 - 27 October

Les Wiles 6628 5161
alstonvilleshowweek.org

Alstonville Show Week Markets
20 October

Main Street, Alstonville

Alstonville Show

25 - 26 October

Alstonville Show Ground
Bob Wilson 6628 0506

BALLINA SHIRE RELAY FOR LIFE

2 - 3 November

Kingsford Smith Park, Ballina
6639 1300
relayforlife.org.au

THE INAUGURAL BALLINA PRAWN FESTIVAL

Celebrating 40 Years of Las Balsas

Saturday 16 November 11am to 9pm

Missingham Park on Ballina Island
6681 5049

prawnfestival.com.au or join the Ballina
Prawn Festival Facebook page

SECOND HAND SATURDAY

16 November

Register online from 7 October
mysecondhandsaturday.com.au

water

Did you know
that the overall amount
of water on our planet has
remained the same for two billion
years? This means that the water
falling from your shower tonight
may have once fallen on
a dinosaur!



Water moves around the earth in a water cycle which has five parts: evaporation, condensation, precipitation, infiltration and surface run-off, naturally cleaning itself as it goes through this cycle.

Only 1% of the earth's water is drinkable and as our world's population increases, human activities such as urbanisation and agriculture are altering our natural water cycle. To help alleviate these imbalances, we need to think about cleaning and re-using our wastewater to help take pressure off our precious drinking water.

To replicate and speed-up natural water cleansing processes, Ballina Shire Council has, over the past eight years upgraded our sewerage treatment facilities at Lennox Head and Ballina into 'Recycled Water Treatment Plants'.

The water that comes out of these plants has been through a variety of cleaning processes including biological treatment, membrane filtration and disinfection and is ready to be reused or released into our waterways.

Crystal the recycled water drop represents the recycled water which is starting to travel through purple pipes to open spaces and new houses.

We need to start using her recycled water for things like 'toilet flushing' and 'watering the garden', instead of our precious drinking water.

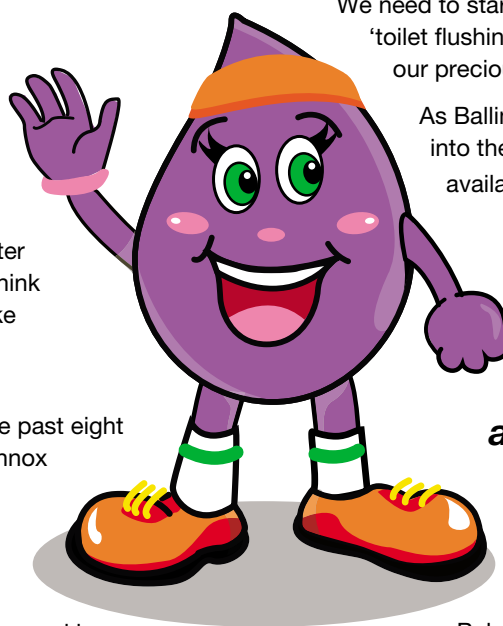
As Ballina Shire's population grows and we move into the future, Crystal will protect our water availability in times of drought and uncertainty.

'A warmer climate, with its increased climate variability, will increase the risk of both floods and drought'

- 2007 Report International Panel on Climate Change, Floods and Droughts.

We are starting to see a lot more of Crystal the recycled water mascot.

Below are some of her recent adventures around Ballina Shire.



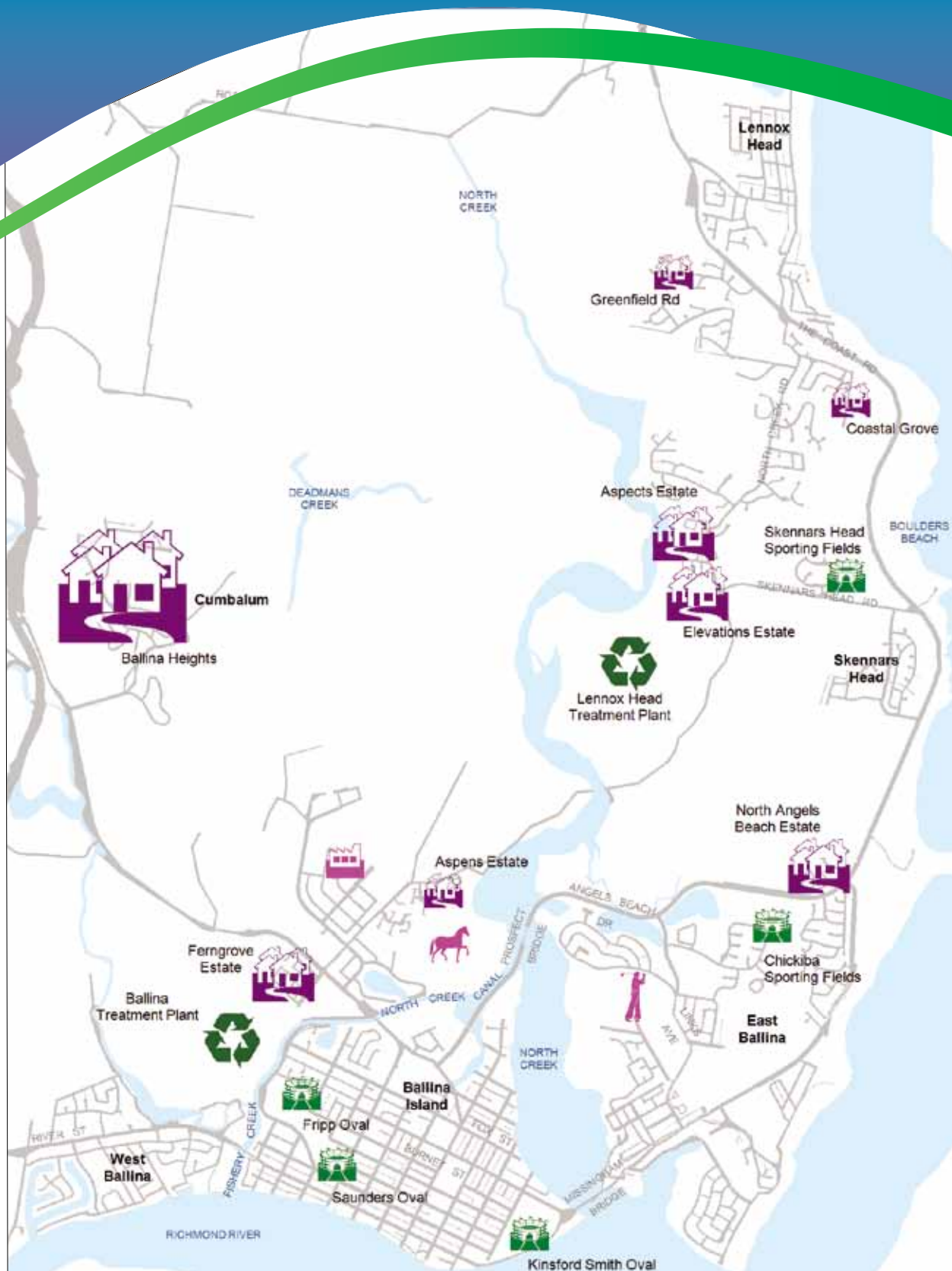
Crystal at the Westpac Charity Walk with Lennox Head Surf Club captain, Brett Clarke.



Congratulating the under 12 winners at the Lions Fun Run



Crystal dancing at Ballina Bunnings' store opening



This is where recycled water is currently flowing to:



Ballina Sporting Fields



Ballina Golf Course



Ballina Racecourse

Please note:

- The locations recycled water will flow to will increase
- By 2026 Council aims to be recycling close to 80% of treated water
- Excess treated water will continue to be released into our waterways

This is where recycled water will soon flow to:



700+ houses in a variety of new housing estates (toilets, cold water clothes washing machine taps, at least one outdoor tap).



Industrial Estates (toilets and outdoor use)



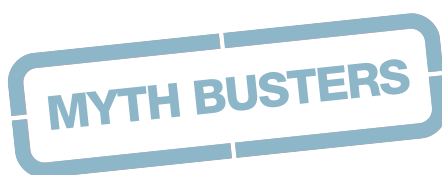
Bridge and Road Projects

Completed Works

- Midgen Flat Road Upgrade
- Pimlico Road Upgrade
- Cawarra Park Boat Ramp Resurfacing

Current Works

- Uralba Road Upgrade
- Eltham Road. This is road safety improvement project is being funded by a \$230,000 Roads and Maritime Services (RMS) grant.
- Compton Drive realignment and carpark. This is part of the surf lifesaving club project. Compton Drive will be straightened and a new carpark for 80 vehicles will replace the current temporary arrangement.
- Ballina Heights Drive is scheduled for completion early next year, weather permitting.



Did Council close the Shelly Beach Café?

No. This business was privately sold by the former owner. The new owner(s) then chose not to operate the business until such time as they had redeveloped the site. A development application was lodged by the new owner for the redevelopment of the café to provide a facility that could manage all weather conditions. This new building requires approval from Council and Crown Lands (State Government) as the café is located on Council and Crown land.

Council has provided planning approval for the redevelopment however to allow the new building to proceed the State Government has requested Council acquire a portion of the adjoining Crown land. To assist the new owner Council is in the process of acquiring this land at market value with the new owner then paying an increased rental to Council.

The new owners have been paying Council the full rental for the business since it was purchased, although they have recently asked Council to consider some rental relief while the land acquisition is finalised.

Wardell Boat Ramp - Postponed Works

An Osprey pair remain active at the nest around the Wardell Boat Ramp, which means work has not yet recommenced. Osprey are a vulnerable species found along our coastline. Work on the boat ramp will recommence when fledgling activity ceases.

Tenders Called

Carpark Construction

Tenders for the contract to demolish buildings at 74 and 78 Tamar Street will soon be awarded. The two commercial buildings will be demolished to allow for a carpark and public toilets to be built. There are currently some tenants remaining and Council is working with them to help relocate their businesses.

Tamarind Drive and Byron Bay Road

This tender is for the upgrade of sections of Tamarind Drive north of Ballina plus a section of Byron Bay Road immediately south of the Byron Shire boundary. The Byron Bay Road section is being funded by a \$630,000 Road Safety grant from RMS.

Emigrant Creek Boat Ramp Pontoon, West Ballina

This contract will be awarded soon and the project will enhance the recently completed boat ramp carpark. This will be partly funded by a \$35,000 grant from the RMS Better Boating Program.

Coastal Recreation Pathway - Lodged Development Applications

It has been a long process but we are getting closer to the construction of a shared path/walkway linking East Ballina to Lennox Head. Council recently finalised route options and has submitted documentation seeking planning approval for the shared path.

The routes of the paths can be viewed on the homepage of Council's website ballina.nsw.gov.au

Did Council close the café in Fawcett Park?

No. The previous operator of this café was placed in liquidation by a creditor in 2012. This immediately terminated the lease with Council. Council subsequently proceeded to call for Expressions of Interest (EOI) for a new café operator. After a lengthy EOI process, in what have been tough times for café operators, Council appointed a new operator.

Unfortunately, prior to the new lease being signed with this operator, the building was badly damaged by the extreme wind conditions we had in February this year. This required Council as the owner of the building, the new operator and the insurer to agree on how the building would be repaired and refurbished and how the costs would be apportioned. Agreement has now been reached between all three parties in regard to the building repair works and renovations. Council has now called tenders to appoint a builder to commence the reconstruction of the building and a decision on the successful builder will be made at the September Council meeting. This will allow the works on the building to commence in October with a ten week construction period expected.

The commencement of the building work will allow a new lease to be signed for the café.

If you have any other stories you would like clarified please email Council at mythbusters@ballina.nsw.gov.au



IMPROVING PORTER PARK

Porter Park in West Ballina is a great place to play or kick a ball and Council wants to get more people using the park. A consultation program will canvas views and suggestions from residents on how they would better use the park.

We want people to think as broadly as possible. We have a blank canvas to work with, along with a current budget of \$100,000. The park could be used for passive recreation such as landscaping, shading and seating to make it a more pleasant environment. It could include playground equipment or a number of elements.

Community feedback will form the basis of concept designs that will be presented to community forums for comment before being taken to Council for approval.

For further information phone Council's Civil Services on 6686 4444.

NEW BIKE RACKS AND MOTORCYCLE PARKING



Twenty-nine additional bike racks have been installed in the Ballina, Alstonville and Lennox Head CBDs. The bike racks use existing sign posts and use very little pedestrian space in the street.

Cyclists can secure their bikes to either side of the signpost, leaving the footpath less congested and safer for pedestrians.

Council is also improving parking for motor bikes in the Ballina CBD with more spaces being made available.

Jodie Hewett, BSC Road Safety Officer, demonstrates how to use the new bike racks.



Born: Ballina

Time with Ballina Shire Council: Two and a half years. My primary role is Operations Engineer for Water and Wastewater and more recently I've been Acting Manager of Waste.

Before coming to Ballina Shire Council I worked with Sydney Water as a Project Engineer on their Priority Sewerage Program which provided sewerage services to unsewered communities and townships of Sydney. I started with Sydney Water as a graduate engineer.

What does your job entail: It's been a busy few years for Ballina Shire Council with major upgrades to the Lennox Head and Ballina Wastewater Treatment Plants, preparing them for the production of Recycled Water. In my role as Engineer for Water and Wastewater I oversee the operations of these Plants, along with the Alstonville and Wardell Plants. The role also requires keeping the entire wastewater and water network operating as efficiently as possible.

I am currently in an acting role, managing the waste operations and resource recovery. Resource recovery extracts materials from waste that can be recycled to reduce waste and make better use of resources. One project that the Waste Division is currently looking into is a

commercial scale biochar project, where waste organics is converted into biochar and renewable energy.

What training and study have you undertaken that has helped you in your roles with Council? I graduated with a Bachelor of Engineering in Mechatronics from the University of Southern Queensland. Mechatronics covers mechanical, electrical, control and computer engineering. I also completed a Masters of Engineering Management at University of Technology, Sydney.

Best part of the job: Ballina Shire Council has provided me with exciting opportunities to be involved in innovative projects focused on sustainability of our resources. These include the Recycled Water treatment plants incorporating membrane bioreactor technology, and the biochar project using pyrolysis technology.

Most memorable moment whilst at Ballina Shire Council: During the two major storm events we experienced in January and February our Treatment Plants were really put to the test. It is during these high pressure times that you're challenged to put your theory into practice.

What to you like about living in Ballina Shire: I love the coastlines and that there are so many beautiful areas to explore.

In my spare time: I like to spend time with my family and scout out the beautiful spots in our region to photograph. I've recently created an online photo blog (tonypartridge.com) where I upload photos that I've taken of places, people and events around the region and beyond.

If I won lotto: It would depend on how much I won but I would probably pay off my student debt and then collect the change in one dollar coins and like Scrooge McDuck sit on my pile of gold coins throwing them in the air with delight.

Council's footnote: During the two major storm events in early 2013 Tony was instrumental in ensuring that Treatment Plants kept operating and processing wastewater. His quick grasp of the circumstances and his calmness under pressure ensured that the Plants did not fail and continued operating so as to reduce the impact on residents.



What's On! at your local community facility

Ballina Shire Council has four community facilities across the Shire available to hire for meetings, functions and events. If you are interested in starting a new interest group, sporting activity or community event phone our friendly staff on 6687 6291 or email communityfacilities@ballina.nsw.gov.au.



LENNOX HEAD CULTURAL & COMMUNITY CENTRE
1 Mackney Lane Lennox Head



KENTWELL COMMUNITY CENTRE
20 Bangalow Rd Ballina



THE RICHMOND ROOM
Regatta Ave, Ballina



BALLINA SURF CLUB FUNCTION ROOMS
65 Lighthouse Parade, Ballina



EVENT VENUES

- LHCCC:** Lennox Head Cultural & Community Centre
- KCC:** Kentwell Community Centre
- RR:** The Richmond Room
- Ballina SC:** Ballina Surf Club Function Rooms

COMMUNITY GROUPS

AMORC
KCC
3rd Saturday of the Month
2:00pm – 4:00pm
Peter Reed on 0428 655 795
amorc.org.au

Ballina Camera Club
KCC
2nd and 4th Thursdays of the Month
6:00pm – 9:00pm
Mark Davis on 6686 6915 or email mark@baaf.com.au

Lennox Head Residents Association
LHCCC
1st Monday of the Month
7:00pm – 9:00pm
Fred on 6687 7790

Sing Australia
KCC
Every Tuesday Evening
7:00pm – 9:00pm
Brian on 0407 358 717

The Silver Smiths
KCC
Every Wednesday Evening
5:00pm – 6:00pm
Helen on 6681 6357 or Norma on 6686 3506

COMMUNITY SERVICES

Broadband for Seniors

KCC
Mondays and Thursdays
9:30am – 11:30am
Phone 6681 5549

Interrelate Family Centres: Outreach Program

KCC
Wednesdays and Fridays
9:00am – 5:00pm
Phone 6623 2750

Northern Rivers Gambling Counselling Service

KCC
Thursdays
By Appointment
Phone 6687 2520

Tarmons House Mental Health Service

KCC
Mondays and Tuesdays
8:00am – 6:00pm
Phone 6621 7319

Stepping Out With Confidence Program

LHCCC
Every Monday for 6 Weeks
1:00pm – 3:00pm
The Stepping On Coordinator on 0408 665 282

HEALTH & WELLBEING

Australian Red Cross Blood Service

RR
Various Mondays and Tuesdays
Each Month
1:30pm – 7:00pm
Pre arrange an appointment.
Phone 13 14 95

Breast Cancer Support Group

KCC
1st Thursday of the Month
10:00am – 11:30am
Robyn on 0413 027 446

General Cancer Support Group

Ballina SC
2nd Thursday of the Month
10:00am – 11:30am
Robyn on 0413 027 446

Cannabis Clinic

KCC
2nd, 3rd & 4th Thursdays
9:30am – 3:30pm
1300 664 098

Ujalia Yoga with Jess

LHCCC
Tuesdays & Thursdays
6:00pm – 7:30pm
Jess on 0468 348 015

INTRA: The Buttery's Drug & Alcohol Outreach Program

KCC
Wednesdays
1:30pm – 3:00pm
Ph 6687 2835

Physical Culture

LHCCC
Every Thursday
5:15pm – 6:15pm
Sharyn on 6687 4835 or Margaret on 6688 2126

Registered Psychologist & Psychotherapist

LHCCC
Every Thursday
8:00am – 6:00pm
Roshanak Vahdani on 0431 017 990

Bulk Billing Psychiatrist

LHCCC
Every Tuesday
8:00am – 5:00pm
Chris on 0427 570 912

Lotus Heart Centre – Weekly Pop Up Clinic new!

LHCCC
Most Wednesdays
10:00am – 6:00pm
Emily on 0404 019 078



Yoga Veda Yoga for Surfers

LHCCC
Wednesday
6:00pm – 7:30pm
Daniel on 0404 833 855

Pediatrician

LHCCC
Every Friday
8:00am – 6:00pm
Dr Uli Schmidt
on 0434 285 474
email kilu11@gmx.de

Soul Awareness Seminars

LHCCC
Various Dates
7:30pm – 9:00pm
Dean on 0418 983 880

SOL North Coast Nutrition

KCC
2nd and 4th Tuesday
8:00am – 6:00pm
Christina on 6680 8576

Iyengar Yoga new!

LHCCC
Monday & Tuesday
4:00pm–5:30pm (Mon)
6:00pm–7:30pm (Tues)
0413 767 611 / 0402 770 441

Sunrise Yoga - STRENGTH new!

Ballina SC
Wednesday
5:45am - 6:45am
Chara on 0481 303 079

SPORT, GAMES AND COMPETITIONS

Ballina Netball Association

LHCCC
Mondays 7:00pm – 9:00pm
Tuesdays 5:30pm – 8:30pm
Judy on 6686 7191

Far North Coast Futsal

LHCCC

Sign on Dates
Wed 28 Aug 4:00pm–8:00pm
Wed 4 Sept 4:00pm–8:00pm
Competition Commences
Wed 9 October
Tanya on 6628 3845

Boxation

LHCCC
Mondays 4:00pm – 5:15pm
Phone Steve Bowden
on 0447 181 208
email steve.bowden@bdcsa.org

Lennox Head Life Ball

LHCCC
Every Tuesday Morning
9:30am - 11:30am
Yvonne on 6687 6238

Wheelchair Sports

LHCCC
Last Thursday of the Month
10:00am - 1:00pm
Vicki Crethar on 6620 6600

KIDS & BABIES

Angelina Ballerina Dance Academy

LHCCC
Every Tuesday 10am – 11am
Phone 6629 1014

Early Childhood Nurse

LHCCC
Every Monday by Appointment
9:30am – 3:30pm
Phone 6686 8977

Heart of Dance

LHCCC
Mondays 5:00pm – 8:00pm
Tuesdays 3:30pm – 5:30pm
Phone 0422 846 278

Lennox Head Kidz Klub

LHCCC
Wed, Thurs and Fri over both weeks of September Schools holidays.
9.30am – 12.30pm and/or 1.00pm – 4.00pm
\$20 per child per session or

\$40 full day. Pre-registration essential. Phone 6687 6291

Lennox Head Playgroup

LHCCC
Tuesdays and Fridays
9:30am - 11:30am
Wednesdays 9:30am -10:30am (during school terms only)
Tonya on 6687 5745



North Coast Kids and Babies Market

LHCCC
Saturday 21 Sept 2013
9:00am - 1:00pm
northcoastkidsbabiesmarket.com

Pre's to Teens Disco – Club Lennox

Friday 20 September
Session 1 (4 – 8 years):
5.30 – 7.00pm
\$5 per person or \$10 per family.
Session 2 (8 – 15 years):
7.30 – 9.30pm
\$7 per person.
Club Lennox on 0402 768 967

IN THE LENNOX LIBRARY

Baby Bounce

Every Wednesday Morning
10:30am - 11:30am
Phone 02 6687 6398

Story Time

Every Thursday Morning
10:30am - 11:30am
Phone 02 6687 6398

For further information on the events listed above download the What's On! Program at ballina.nsw.gov.au/communityfacilities



CHILDREN LOVING MISSINGHAM PARK

Missingham Park in Ballina

is one of the best playgrounds in the Northern Rivers and it's a great place to take the children to burn off some energy. Council recently installed a new all-weather shelter over the play equipment so it can be used even when it is raining.

We have also laid a new rubber floor surface and added three new rides for toddlers as well as additional seats for parents.

Unfortunately vandals often spoil things for others so if you notice any graffiti or damage to the park please call Council on 6686 4444 and report it so we can get things fixed.





waste watch

COMPOSTABLE DISPOSABLE NAPPIES COMING TO BALLINA SHIRE

NEW Gently Eco Nappy can go in the organic bin

One of the big issues for parents with young children is the disposal of plastic-lined nappies. Considering babies will use up to 5,000 nappies in their first few years and normal disposable nappies take around 100 years to biodegrade, this is a significant problem.

While some environmentally conscious parents use modern cloth nappies, 95% of young parents are still using time-saving disposable nappies.

There is good news for people wanting an alternative to plastic disposable nappies with Lismore Composting Facility approving a new fully disposable nappy brand called 'Gently Eco Nappy'. It's made from a combination of bamboo, wood pulp and corn starch biofilm and can therefore go in the organics bin for waste collection.

Ritchie's IGA and 'Nourish all of You', in Ballina, will be stocking the new compostable nappies which will be very competitively priced.

Daycare Centres and Preschools can phone Council's Waste Education Officer Kate Pye on 6686 1458 to talk about wholesale options.



ORGANICS BINS CONTINUE TO BE A BIG SUCCESS

It's been two years since we introduced the three bin garbage service in the Ballina Shire. The majority of residents are making the most of the organics bin and using it to dispose of their kitchen scraps as well as the green waste from their gardens.

The aim of introducing the organics bin was to reduce the amount of waste going into landfill. In two years we have halved the amount of waste going to landfill. Thank you for your cooperation.

Many residents simply wrap their scraps in newspaper and put them in their organics bin while others choose to use compostable bags. These bags are the only ones that break down quickly as they contain no plastic. Please make sure the bags you put in the organics bin contain no plastic - most shopping bags are unsuitable.

Plastic bags can only go in the general waste bin. They cannot go in the organics or recycling bin. We encourage you to carry your own reusable shopping bags and say 'no' when shop assistants offer plastic bags as they will end up in landfill.

COUNCIL'S SECOND FREE MULCHED GREEN WASTE A WINNER WITH GARDENERS

Hundreds of happy residents took advantage of the offer of free mulch in August at Ballina's Waste Facility.

Vehicles were lined up before the event started and by 2pm free mulch had been collected in 95 cars, 32 utes and 44 trailers.

The day was organised to help residents save water by mulching their gardens early and preparing their soils for the hot summer months ahead.

This is the second free green waste event to be organised by Ballina Shire Council however residents are able to purchase mulched green waste cheaply all year round.

Please phone the Waste Facility on 6686 1287 for more information.



John McGreggor, Chris and Jack Munday of East Ballina with their bags of free mulch

HOLY FAMILY PRIMARY SCHOOL TAKES ON THE 3-BIN SYSTEM

The Holy Family Primary School at Skennars Head added recycling and organics bins to its waste program in July making it the first school in the Ballina Shire to use the 3-bin system.

Council's Waste and Water Education Officer, Kate Pye helped implement the new 3-bin system and education program to teach students how to recycle.

"New educational stickers have been designed to make it easier for students to choose the right bin when disposing their rubbish," Kate said.

A group of students known as the PEAPODS, Powerful Eco Association Protecting Our Delicate Surroundings, requested the change to their school's waste contract which was mostly made up of general waste bins.

"I received beautiful letters from the students who were concerned for the environment and their desire to recycle at school and Council was eager to help," Ms Pye said.

Previously, Holy Family Primary School had 16 general waste bins and eight cardboard bins. The school has installed eight new 3-bin stations for general waste, recyclable waste and organic waste. The PEAPODS now have to make the system work and keep contamination down by making sure their peers put waste in the correct bin.



Nick Houghton with his students from Holy Family trialling the 3 bin system

Ballina Shire Council plans to introduce the 3-bin system to all primary schools in the Shire.

For more information or to get your school involved, please phone Kate Pye on 6686 1458.



FREE DISPOSAL OF OLD TELEVISIONS AND COMPUTERS AT BALLINA WASTE FACILITY

Wondering what to do with your old unwanted televisions, computers or printers?

You can now dispose of your electronic waste (e-waste) for free at the Ballina Shire Waste Facility in Southern Cross Drive, Ballina.

It's part of the National Television and Computer Recycling Scheme which involves a combination of government regulation and industry action to reduce the amount of television and computer waste going to landfill.

The scheme aims to boost the recycling rate of these products from 17% in 2010 to 80% by 2021-22. More than 90% of the materials used to make products like televisions and computers can be recovered and recycled.

So what's accepted?

Residents can drop off, free-of-charge, the items listed below. A limit of 15 items per drop off applies. Under no circumstances will products be returned once disposed of.



TELEVISIONS

- All televisions, such as CRTs, plasma, LCD and projection televisions.



COMPUTERS

- Personal computers
- Laptops, notebooks, palmtops and tablets
- Computer monitors
- Parts for personal computers - eg: internal hard drives, motherboards, cards, internal power supplies, CPUs, DVD and CD drives
- Computer peripherals - eg: mice, keyboards, joysticks, game pads, scanners & web cameras
- Printers - eg: ink-jet, dot matrix, laser printers and multi-functional devices.

What's not accepted?

- Mobile phones
- Game consoles - eg: Microsoft Xboxes or Sony Playstations
- Video recorders
- DVD players
- Radios/stereos
- Power tools
- Appliances/microwaves
- Products that have been exposed to radiation, biological or chemical hazards
- Set top boxes.

If you have a product for recycling that is not accepted under this Scheme there may be other options. You can search for appropriate services via the following websites:

- Planet Ark planetark.com
- Recycling Near You for householders recyclingnearyou.com.au
- Business Recycling for small business businessrecycling.com.au

For more information please phone Kate Pye on 6686 1458.

Electronic Waste (e-Waste) is Australia's fastest growing type of waste



24/7 access for people with disabilities

THE MASTER LOCKSMITH ACCESS KEY (MLAK)

What is MLAK?

The Master Locksmith Access Key (MLAK) is a system that allows 24 hours a day access for people with a disability to public amenities across Australia.

In Ballina Shire accessible amenities are routinely open during daylight hours, however it is necessary to lock them overnight to protect community building assets and to ensure the facility is ready and available for the next day.

The MLAK is designed to increase access for eligible people to amenities that would, under normal circumstances, be locked after hours.

Who is eligible for a key?

To receive a key you will need to be a resident of Ballina Shire (proof of identity will be required), have a disability impeding your mobility that is apparent, or otherwise a letter from a medical practitioner, disability organisation or community health centre verifying your disability.

Where can you obtain a key?

Eligible people are able to obtain a key from Council's Customer Service Centre, 40 Cherry Street, Ballina.

What does it cost?

There is no cost to eligible residents.

Where can I use the MLAK

The MLAK can be used across Australia. For more information visit the National Public Toilet Map toiletmap.gov.au



top class facilities with spectacular views

BALLINA SURF CLUB FUNCTION ROOMS

The new \$6.2 million Ballina Surf Club includes two new function rooms which are available for hire. The rooms can be hired separately, or as one large space with seating for up to 120 people. The views from each room are spectacular.

The function rooms are available to the public or community groups and organisations for hire for special one-off occasions, or can be booked regularly for ongoing purposes.

The rooms have tables and seating, a lectern and large screen television displays with an integrated audio-visual and PA system to help you create truly memorable events.

Enquiries phone 6687 6291.

Ballina
surf club

**Don't
dispose
of me yet**

Use this issue of Community Connect to wrap kitchen waste and dispose in the green organics bin.



CONTACTING YOUR COUNCILLORS

Councillors are here to represent your views. You can contact Councillors in person, by phone or email.

Mayor



David Wright
Mayor
phone 0415 965 403
davidwright@ballina.nsw.gov.au

A Ward



Susan Meehan
Deputy Mayor
phone 0431 685 666
smeehan@ballina.nsw.gov.au

B Ward



Sharon Cadwallader
phone 0419 973 166
crsharonc@nor.com.au

C Ward



Paul Worth
phone 0428 280 082
pworth@ballina.nsw.gov.au

COUNCIL CONTACT INFORMATION

Ph: 02 6686 4444
Fax: 02 6686 7035
Email: council@ballina.nsw.gov.au

Web: ballina.nsw.gov.au

Street Address:
40 Cherry Street, Ballina

Postal Address:
PO Box 450, Ballina 2478

Office Hours:
8.15am to 4.30pm Monday to Friday
(excluding public holidays)

After hours contact:
02 6626 6954

Council's Community Access Points:

Meeting agendas and documents on exhibition can be viewed at Council's Customer Service Centre; Alstonville, Ballina and Lennox Head Libraries and Council's website **ballina.nsw.gov.au**



Robyn Hordern
phone 0410 562 758
robynh@ballina.nsw.gov.au



Jeff Johnson
phone 0438 677 202
jeffjohnson@ballina.nsw.gov.au



Keith Johnson
phone 0407 435 573v
kjohnson@ballina.nsw.gov.au



Ken Johnston
phone 0437 601 715
kenj@ballina.nsw.gov.au



Keith Williams
phone 0418 504 644
keithw@ballina.nsw.gov.au



Ben Smith
phone 0415 482 412
bens@ballina.nsw.gov.au



Council publishes public notices weekly and Community Notices on the fourth Thursday of the month in the Ballina Shire Advocate. Council also distributes "Community Connect eNews" via email on a regular basis, visit **ballina.nsw.gov.au** and follow the links to subscribe.