

community connect

the newsletter of ballina shire council

farewell to our former councillors



ballina's golden girl: the toast of the nation



end of term report summary: 2008-2012



free child restraint checks



twilight markets each thursday



INTRODUCING OUR NEW MAYOR AND COUNCILLORS

The recent Council elections saw a new face introduced to each ward. We welcome our new councillors Paul Worth, Ken Johnston and Keith Williams to Ballina Shire Council.

Councillors are here to represent your views. You can contact councillors in person, by phone or email (their details are below).



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A Ward



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THE MAYOR'S MESSAGE

Cr David Wright

COUNCIL CONTACT INFORMATION

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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; Kentwell Community Centre and Council's website
 www.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 www.ballina.nsw.gov.au and follow the links to subscribe.

With the dust now settled after the Local Government elections one of my first official duties as Mayor was to welcome our amazing Jacqueline Freney back home after a hugely successful Paralympics in London.

We all had high hopes for Jacqueline but her tremendous efforts surpassed all expectations. To return home with eight gold medals was an exceptional achievement and it was my great honour to officially congratulate her at a civic reception at Lennox Head recently. Jacqueline has been rewarded for all her hard training and her work ethic, for someone so young, Jacqueline has been amazing.

This term we have three new councillors. Welcome to Ken Johnston, Keith

Williams and Paul Worth. I am sure they will find their new roles very rewarding. There are some familiar faces back in the Council Chambers as well with Robyn Hordern, Sue Meehan, Sharon Cadwallader, Keith Johnson, Jeff Johnson and Ben Smith working for the community for another term.

I take this opportunity to congratulate former Mayor Phil Silver on his retirement and thank him for the many years he gave to the Ballina Shire as a councillor and Mayor. His knowledge, experience and sense of humour will be missed although I am sure he will keep abreast of local issues. I would also like to thank Alan Brown and Peter Moore, both of whom I served with over many years.

The Ballina Coastal Country Music Festival, which was held on the long weekend, showcased great country music talent. It was great to see so many people enjoying the music and the atmosphere. The Ballina Boat and Leisure Show and Fishing Bonanza, organised by the Volunteer Ballina Marine Rescue Unit, was also a big hit with locals and visitors. A huge effort goes into organising these events and they really make a significant contribution to our community and local economy.

Over the next four years Council will deliver some major projects for the community including the completion of the new Ballina Lighthouse & Lismore Surf Lifesaving Clubhouse and facilities and the development of the Ballina Pyrolysis plant which will see organic waste processed to generate electricity leaving the residue as a carbon sequestering fertiliser.

I am honoured to be the Mayor of the Ballina Shire and I am looking forward to working with Council staff and different sections of the community for the next four years. I urge all residents to take an interest in the Operational Plan and keep abreast of issues via Council's website.

FAREWELL TO FORMER COUNCILLORS

We thank and farewell former Councillors Phillip Silver, Alan Brown and Peter Moore for their contribution to Local Government and the Ballina Shire Council. They did not seek re-election in 2012. Between them they amassed 56 years of experience in Local Government.

Phillip Silver

Phillip Silver represented C Ward serving 19 years on Council, with ten years as Mayor. Phillip will be remembered for his approachable manner with staff and the community. His contribution to the local government was significant and he will be greatly missed by his fellow councillors and council staff.



Alan Brown

Alan Brown represented A Ward serving 20 years on Council, with two years as Mayor. Alan was heavily involved in the expansion and operation of the Ballina



Byron Gateway Airport and was a strong lobbyist for the Ballina Bypass.

Peter Moore

Peter Moore represented B Ward serving 17 years on Council, with three years as Deputy Mayor and one year as Mayor. Peter was a strong advocate of community and social services including youth and family affairs.



Photos courtesy: Doug Eaton, Northern Star



BALLINA'S GOLDEN GIRL JACQUELINE FRENEY

20-year-old Jacqueline Freney is the toast of the nation after winning eight gold medals and breaking six swimming world records at the 2012 Paralympics in London.

Lennox Head was the venue for welcome home celebrations in early October. Hundreds of supporters lined the main street to cheer on our golden girl as she was escorted by Ballina Citizen of the Year Col Lee to a civic reception at the Lennox Head Cultural & Community Centre. Jacqueline spoke modestly of her remarkable achievements, and after accepting the key to the shire from Mayor David Wright happily signed autographs and posed for photos with her many fans who attended.

YOUTH FORUM

Young people are important members of our community and Ballina Shire Council is mindful of ensuring their views are represented. To find out what issues are important to them, Council is organising a Youth Forum which will involve teenagers from schools across the region.

The Youth Forum is an initiative of the Ballina Shire Youth Council. All high schools in the Ballina Shire have been contacted and asked to nominate students who would like to participate in the forum which is scheduled for 13 November 2012.

The Youth Council will present the outcomes from the forum to the elected Council.

GOOD NEWS FOR LOCAL SWIMMERS

Season tickets purchased at Ballina or Alstonville pools are valid at either pool. EFTPOS facilities available.

ALSTONVILLE HEATED POOL

Ph: 6628 0826
 Mon to Fri 6.00am - 6.00pm
 Sat 8.00am - 6.00pm
 Sun & Public Holidays 10.00am - 6.00pm

BALLINA MEMORIAL SWIMMING POOL

Ph: 6686 3771
 Mon to Fri 6.00am - 6.00pm
 Sat 8.00am - 6.00pm
 Sun & Public Holidays 9.00am - 6.00pm



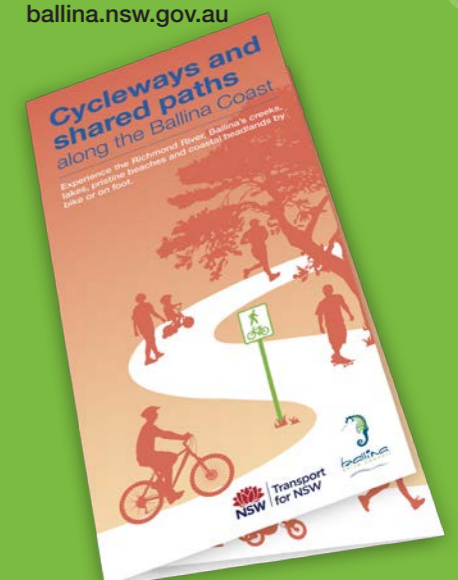
CYCLEWAYS & SHARED PATHS ALONG THE BALLINA COAST

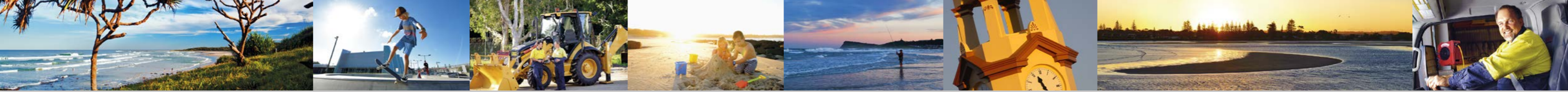
Experience the Richmond River, Ballina's creeks, lakes, pristine beaches and coastal headlands by bike or on foot.

Council has produced a new brochure that includes:

- Tips to improve safety when using shared paths and when riding on the road
- A bike safety checklist; and
- A map of cycleways and shared paths along the Ballina Coast

Collect your free brochure from all bike shops in the shire or download from Council's website www.ballina.nsw.gov.au





COUNCIL PROJECT UPDATES



Road and bridge projects

One of the core roles of Ballina Shire Council is to ensure that we maintain our local road network. Road and bridge projects scheduled for the remainder of 2012 include:

- **Boatharbour Road** reconstruction at **West Ballina**.
- **Rifle Range Road at Alstonville**, between Maguires Creek and Pearces Creek Road.
- **River Drive at South Ballina**.
- **Tuckombil Road at Teven**. Works will commence before Christmas.



Ballina CBD Upgrade

The upgrade of the Ballina CBD is well underway with work on the roundabout at the intersection of River Street and Cherry Street completed. The focus of activity is now on River Street and roadworks are being undertaken in four sections. Council is mindful of the impact of the roadworks on businesses and to limit inconvenience one quarter of the road is being fenced off at a time.

Footpaths in Cherry Street and River Street are also being improved as part of the project and this work is being undertaken at night. Landscaping and finishing works will be undertaken during November and December.

The aim of the project is to make the CBD of Ballina more appealing and enticing to shoppers.

Updates on the CBD upgrade can be found on Council's homepage www.ballina.nsw.gov.au



Niche walls at Alstonville Cemetery

Council staff have been doing a considerable amount of work at the Alstonville cemetery, working on the construction of new niche walls (pictured above) and garden memorial sites. A niche wall is a specially designed wall which provides places for ashes. There will also be space for families to mount memorial plaques to commemorate their loved ones.

The new walls will provide 480 niches and there will also be more than 300 garden interment options. The Alstonville cemetery is off the Bruxner Highway and is set in a peaceful and beautiful landscaped garden surrounded by Poinciana trees.

Missingham Park - New Shade Structure

Missingham Park on the river at Ballina is one of the most popular parks in the shire and Council has provided a skatepark as well as a playground for young children. Unfortunately vandals have done so much damage to the shade shelter over the playground that it has to be replaced.

The replacement structure will not use shade cloth but will incorporate vandal-resistant roofing.

Pat Morton Lookout - Public Toilet

A new toilet is to be built in the carpark at the Pat Morton Lookout at Lennox Head. The facility will be a single unisex and wheelchair-accessible toilet. As there are no services available at the lookout, the toilet will have an on-site sewage treatment system powered by solar energy and solar-powered LED lights.

Saunders Oval Expansion

Sports facilities at Saunders Oval in Ballina are being expanded with a new field to be built near the TAFE, between Canal Road and the Ballina Community Garden.

When this project is complete the Saunders Oval complex will provide six fields that will be available for soccer, touch football and cricket.



Pictured (from left): Federal Member for Page, Janelle Saffin; Surf Club representative, Kris Beavis; and former mayor, Phil Silver.

Ballina Lighthouse & Lismore Surf Life Saving Club

One of the final tasks for retiring Ballina Shire Mayor, Phillip Silver, was turning the first sod on the development of the new Ballina Lighthouse & Lismore Surf Lifesaving Club.

Councillor Silver was joined by the Federal Member for Page, Janelle Saffin and Surf Club representative, Kris Beavis in early September to officially declare the commencement of construction.

The redevelopment of the surf club has been a long time in the planning, and the new clubhouse and facilities should be finished by July next year, in time for the 2013-14 season.

The Ballina Shire Council is contributing \$3.2 million to the project from our commercial property reserves, with the Federal Government allocating \$2.3 million. The Surf Club is also chipping in \$300,000, a great effort from a volunteer organisation. The NSW Government has indicated it will provide \$100,000 for the new facility.



Ballina Shire Surf Lifesavers, the best in NSW

Congratulations to the Ballina Lighthouse & Lismore Surf Lifesaving Club on winning the NSW Club of the Year at the NSW Surf Lifesaving Awards of Excellence. This is a great achievement for any club, but particularly for Ballina because it has been operating out of shipping containers for several years, waiting for the new clubhouse to be built.

Harrison Murphy from the Lennox Head-Alstonville Surf Lifesaving Club was named Junior Surf Lifesaver of the Year and the Byron Bay Surf Lifesaving Club's Glen Lawrence, Josh Brown and the Under 15 team were also recognised for their outstanding achievements. Ballina Shire Lifeguard Ruben Roxburgh was named Lifeguard of the Year.

Search & Rescue Co-ordination Centre for Marine Rescue NSW

Marine rescue services in Ballina will be improved significantly in the next two years with a new Search and Rescue Co-ordination Centre to be built at Ballina, replacing the existing facility at North Wall.

Expressions of interest for consultants to undertake the project were called earlier this year and there are now five short-listed applicants. They have been asked to tender documents providing concept designs and the preferred tenderer will be referred to the November Council meeting for acceptance.

\$11 million upgrade of Ballina Airport

The Ballina Byron Gateway Airport is to be upgraded to allow more parking for jets and other aircraft. Ballina Shire Council has received \$3.5 million from the Federal Government for the upgrade and extension of its apron parking bays near the passenger terminal.

Council will contribute \$2.5 million towards the project, which should be completed in December this year. When finished the airport will provide parking for three jets at one time. This will help Council achieve its goal of increasing passenger numbers to more than 500,000 by 2015.

The runway will also be resurfaced after the NSW Government announced Ballina would have access to \$7 million for airport improvements as part of its Local Infrastructure Renewal Scheme which offers low interest loans for councils undertaking significant infrastructure projects.

Wollongbar sports fields

Major earthworks on new sports fields at Wollongbar are planned to start in November after Council received \$4.5 million from the Federal Government's Building Better Regional Cities (BBRC) program.

Thirteen hectares of land have been set aside for new sports facilities which include:

- One AFL field and sports lighting
- Two rugby grounds and lighting
- One cricket oval (summer use of rugby grounds)
- Six tennis courts and lighting
- Four netball courts
- Clubhouse facilities.

The total estimated cost of this project is \$6.2 million with Council contributing \$1.7 million from its commercial property reserves. The BBRC will also allow Council to waive developer contributions for residential land allotments in the new subdivision, when that land is sold to low to middle income earners. This waiver has the potential to provide \$30,000 in savings in the cost of land to eligible purchasers and will provide more affordable residential land within Ballina Shire.



BALLINA VISITOR INFORMATION CENTRE NOW ON FACEBOOK AND TWITTER



The Ballina Visitor Information Centre is now live on Facebook and Twitter!

Keep up to date with local events and tourism news from the team at the Ballina Visitor Information Centre.

Log on to [facebook.com/ballinacoastandhinterland](https://www.facebook.com/ballinacoastandhinterland) and twitter.com/discoverballina to connect with the team today.

New Ballina Coast and Hinterland Visitor Guide and Dining Guide

The 2012/13 Ballina Coast and Hinterland Visitor Guide and Dining Guide are out now!

The visitor guide contains stunning new images of the Ballina Shire and has information on activities, attractions, tours, accommodation, touring routes, events, markets, parks and reserves, arts and culture, shopping and entertainment.

The visitor guide also contains a regional map, an extensive retail directory and useful phone numbers. With a print run of 70,000 the visitor guide is the key marketing tool used to promote the Ballina coast and hinterland.

Tourism staff have also compiled a new dining guide for the Ballina Shire. Collect your copy from the Ballina Visitor Information Centre or the Arrivals Terminal at Ballina Byron Gateway Airport. Alternatively call 1800 777 666 and we'll send you a copy.

Subscribe to Discover Ballina Seasonal E-Newsletters

Do you have visiting friends and relatives, or want to keep up to date with local tourism news?

The Ballina Visitor Information Centre has launched its new Seasonal Visitor E-Newsletter with the next edition due on the first day of summer. Each edition will be emailed to your inbox on the first day of each new season and contains local tourism news, hot deals and events.

To subscribe to the e-newsletter, enter your email address in the welcome section at www.discoverballina.com.



Pictured: Works by Patricia Walsh and Sarah Harvey

31 OCTOBER – 25 NOVEMBER

Ballina Fox Street Preschool will showcase individual and collaborative works by some of Ballina's youngest artists!

Sarah Harvey gives us her exhibition *The Travelling Menagerie*

Michele-Karin Valterio will exhibit exquisite watercolours of Lake Ainsworth

Cassandra Purdon explores concepts of travel and place in *I Walk the Earth: Story Dog series*

Patricia Walsh, Lismore based artist, documents the rare fragile natural places that make Australia unique in *Geologica Coast*

28 NOVEMBER – 23 DECEMBER

Wendy Taylor exhibits collages and canvases in the exhibition *Journeys - from the coast to the centre*.

Anne Leon, Potts & Barbara Carmichael will provide a joint exhibition with *Nautical Impressions*.

WORKSHOPS

Stay up-to-date with information regarding fun hands-on workshops for kids by subscribing to Gallery e-news at www.ballinanews.net/newsletters



Northern Rivers Community Gallery

44-46 Cherry Street Ballina

Ph: 6681 6167

Wednesday to Friday: 10am – 4pm

Weekends: 9.30am – 2.30pm

Closed public holidays

BALLINA SHIRE COUNCIL end of term report A SUMMARY 2008-2012



The Local Government Act 1993 requires all councils to report to their communities how they performed in the electoral term 2008 to 2012. This Summary of the End of Term report outlines our progress in achieving the objectives outlined in the Community Strategic Plan. The full version of the Report can be downloaded from Council's website.

The Community Strategic Plan 2010-2025 (CSP) sets the direction for Council and takes into account our community's aspirations for the future with the agreed vision being... ***People want a shire that provides a healthy lifestyle, a prosperous natural environment and a community with a strong sense of place.*** To achieve this vision the CSP outlines eight objectives:

1. **A built environment** contributing to health and wellbeing.
2. A diverse and prosperous **economy**.
3. A healthy **natural environment**.
4. Diverse and balanced **use of our land**.
5. **People** attaining health and wellbeing.
6. Resilient and adaptable **communities**.
7. Responsible and efficient use of **resources**.
8. Transparent and accountable **governance**.

The End of Term Report (Summary), on the following pages, provides an overview of the progress and achievements that the 2008-2012 Council implemented for each of these objectives.

all in a days work

Apart from the many achievements summarised in the End of Term Report there are many day to day services and operations that Council provides. Here is just a sample of our operations:

- Ballina Byron Gateway Airport approached **350,000 passengers per annum**
- From 2008 to 2012 the Ballina Shire identified itself as one of the region's most attractive places to live and invest with **development consents** issued for the period totalling over **\$415 million in value**.
- **426,915 items of correspondence** and documentation have been registered
- **\$127 million** was spent on capital works between 2008/09 and 2011/12
- **2,466 Development applications** were processed between 2008/09 and 2011/12
- **90% of building applications** were determined within 40 days
- **17,791** visited the **Northern Rivers Community Gallery** in 2011/2012
- **58,000** visited the **Ballina Visitor Information Centre** in 2011/2012
- **377,045** external visits to **Council's website** between 2008/09 and 2011/12
- **1,795,346 items** loaned from the **libraries** in Ballina Shire
- **520,075 people** through the turnstiles at the **Ballina and Alstonville pools** between 2008/09 and 2011/12.

Further information and resources

Economic and Community Profile which contains the latest demographic and socio-economic data for Ballina Shire is available on Council's website www.ballina.nsw.gov.au (go to: Community and Lifestyle / Community Profile and Atlas).

A full copy of this **End of Term Report** is available from the homepage of Council's website www.ballina.nsw.gov.au

A built environment contributing to health and wellbeing



progress & achievements

BALLINA LIGHTHOUSE & LISMORE SURF LIFESAVING CLUBHOUSE council allocated \$3.2 million to the \$5.8 million project. First sod turned 4 September 2012. Due for completion mid in 2013.

ENERGY EFFICIENT SOLAR PANELS installed on Council buildings, saving up to 23 tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions per site per year. Lennox Head Cultural and Community Centre solar panels generate enough electricity for the entire complex and large rain water tanks were installed to minimise water consumption from Council's water supply.

BALLINA COMMUNITY SERVICES (KENTWELL) CENTRE provides much needed office space to major community service providers and meeting rooms for the general public.

NORTHERN RIVERS COMMUNITY GALLERY regarded as one of the premier exhibition spaces in the Northern Rivers, has presented 113 exhibitions since 2009.

ASBESTOS MANAGEMENT PLAN was implemented to provide an annual inspection and testing program for all Council assets.

LENNOX HEAD CULTURAL AND COMMUNITY CENTRE \$9 million investment, houses the library, a multifunction sports court, rooms, and meeting areas for community groups. The project included the construction of a skatepark and significant improvements to roads and shared pathways to service the Lennox Head village centre.

MAJOR DRAINAGE WORKS in Cherry Street, Moon Street, Daydream Avenue, Kalinga Street, Coogee Street, Tresise Place, Rous Mill Road, River Drive and Keith Hall Lane, along with improving drainage outlets at the Lennox Head foreshore.

CARPARKING was a priority with two properties newly acquired for additional Ballina Town Centre carparking. New carpark at Lake Ainsworth, Lennox Head. Ballina Yacht Club carpark improvements. Formalised carparking in Park Lane, Lennox Head.

MAJOR URBAN AND RURAL ROAD RECONSTRUCTION WORKS included the Coast Road landslip at Lennox Head, the construction of an entirely new road at Wollongbar, being Plateau Drive.

TOWN AND VILLAGE SIGNAGE was installed to enhance information and education opportunities for residents and visitors.

TOWN & VILLAGE CENTRE UPGRADES at Alstonville, Ballina and Wardell improved traffic management, increased pedestrian and cycle access, additional street furniture, wider footpaths, outdoor facilities and landscaping.

TEVEN TIMBER BRIDGES which dated back to the early 1900s, were replaced with contemporary concrete structures at a cost of \$8.5 million.

A diverse and prosperous economy



progress & achievements

BALLINA BYRON GATEWAY AIRPORT continues to be one of the busiest regional airports in NSW. From June 2010 to June 2012, weekly flights increased from 31 to 43. Improvements included terminal redevelopment, direct Melbourne and Newcastle services, arrivals lounge renovation and new long term carpark. Work is underway on a third jet parking bay as part of the apron extension project.

BALLINA SHIRE LOCAL ENVIRONMENTAL PLAN (LEP) was comprehensively reviewed in terms of the State Government template. The new LEP outlines permitted land uses for the entire shire and has been submitted to the NSW Minister for Planning for approval.

DREDGING TASKFORCE was formed with the Ballina Chamber of Commerce and Industry and the Ballina Fishermen's Co-operative Ltd, to pursue dredging of the Richmond River, the Ballina Boatharbour and North Creek. The Taskforce lobbied the NSW State Government to undertake feasibility assessments to dredge with the aim of improving the overall health of the river.

BALLINA SHIRE GROWTH MANAGEMENT STRATEGY was adopted in conjunction with the new LEP. It identifies land which, subject to detailed environmental assessment and comprehensive infrastructure planning, may be suitable for rezoning and development for urban purposes.

BALLINA SHIRE DEVELOPMENT CONTROL PLAN (DCP) was comprehensively reviewed. DCPs are integral to local planning as they detail the delivery of Council's preferred development outcomes.

DEVELOPMENT AND BUILDING in the shire saw over \$450 million in development consents issued for 2008-2012. Major commercial approvals included the Harvey Norman Complex, a new Bunnings Store at the Big Prawn site and the Highway Service Centre and Homeworld complexes at West Ballina.

BALLINA TWILIGHT MARKET was successfully trialled last summer to encourage the availability of local produce. Council supports the continuation of the market on Fawcett Park during the months of day-light-savings.

ONLINE COMMUNITY SERVICES DIRECTORY was developed to connect residents easily and conveniently to the range of educational, health, recreational and social support services in the shire.

NORTHERN RIVERS FOODLINKS PROJECT involving seven local councils and Rous Water addressed climate change impacts associated with food production, distribution and consumption by reducing the reliance on food sourced outside the region and increasing more sustainable food production practices. Significant project outcomes included the establishment of community and school gardens, field days, and farming trials in sustainable agriculture. The project won the Australian ENVIRO Innovation in Sustainability Award for 2012.

TOURISM developed a new destination website discoverballina.com and released two Visitor Guides. A regional visitor services strategy was developed with seven local councils.

The Tourism Ambassador Program at the Ballina Byron Gateway Airport is proving a great success with 24 volunteers recruited to meet and greet visitor arrivals.

Shop local campaign initiated by Council, the Ballina Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Ballina Tourism and Hospitality and Destination NSW to counteract slow business activity due to the opening of the Ballina Bypass saw over 140 businesses participate, and a further 120 businesses attending business development workshops.

A healthy natural environment



progress & achievements

ALSTONVILLE RECLAIMED WATER SCHEME was opened in 2008 and recycles water that would normally be discharged into the environment, for nursery and agricultural applications. Farmers and nurseries using the water are under arrangement and must provide environmental management plans based on best practice guidelines.

BALLINA-LENNOX HEAD RECYCLED WATER MASTER PLAN is the most expensive project Council has ever undertaken with a budget in excess of \$100 million. The target is to reuse 80% of treated wastewater (in dry weather) from the Ballina and Lennox Head Wastewater Treatment Plants by the year 2026. This will be achieved by providing dual reticulation (for activities such as garden watering, toilet flushing and car washing) to 7,242 new urban lots. Playing fields and parks irrigated with recycled water will increase to 173 hectares, and 160 hectares for vegetation regeneration.

\$45 million will increase the capacity of the West Ballina Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) from 12,000 equivalent persons (EPs) to 30,000 and the Lennox Head WWTP from 18,000 to 28,000. This ensures we have adequate capacity for more than 20 years, and improves the quality of wastewater discharged to the environment.

BUSH REGENERATION saw the continuation of Bitou Bush abatement along the coastline and the planting of 1,000 littoral rainforest trees at Lennox Headland each year. Restoration of "Big Scrub" subtropical lowland rainforest remnants at Killen Falls, Duck Creek and Marom Creek. Council's nursery supplied native seedlings and mulch to schools and landcare groups for National Tree Days.

CLIMATE ACTION STRATEGY was endorsed by Council. This Strategy documents Council's thinking in regards to appropriate climate change responses based on community expectation, current scientific knowledge and government direction. Council also achieved Milestone 4 under the Cities for Climate Protection program.

EROSION AND SEDIMENTATION CONTROL EDUCATION PROGRAM aimed at protecting our local waterways by controlling erosion and sediment on construction sites was delivered to over 100 representatives from the local building and development industry. The program will be followed with further education and enforcement action where appropriate.

ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION PLAN (EAP) documents Council's actions in relation to our environmental responsibilities. Projects include sustainability criteria for all Council's tender processes; Climate Action Strategy, drinking water fountains across the shire, organic waste collection and energy efficient street lighting. The EAP can be viewed on Council's website.

ENVIRONMENTAL INNOVATION with BSC being the first in Australia to install beach access ramps and stairs made from recycled plastic of composite fibre, which has a life of 100-years. Council designed and constructed a dolphin exclusion device for Prospect Lake to prevent dolphin access, and a mangrove seed exclusion device for Chickiba Lake to restrict mangrove growth around migratory bird roosting sites. Council has also led the way with the introduction of B20 biodiesel, a renewable fuel for heavy plant.

FLOOD PLAIN MANAGEMENT AND COASTAL EROSION projected impacts were investigated through the Floodplain Risk Management Study and Plan as well as the Draft Flood Risk Management DCP. The NSW Government sea level rise benchmarks were updated via the Coastal Zone Management Study, providing a clearer picture of the possible impacts on our coastline, floodplains and land. A draft Emergency Action Plan was also developed as a stand alone emergency response plan.

RICHMOND RIVER ESTUARY will be protected and enhanced following the adoption of Coastal Zone Management Plan (CZMP). The adoption of the CZMP now allows the constituent councils (Ballina Shire, Lismore City and Richmond Valley councils) to access funds through the NSW State Government's Estuary Management Program.

STREET TREE PLANTING PROGRAM was refined in 2011 with a plan to increase the level of endemic species in urban areas.

diverse and balanced use of our land



progress & achievements

DEVELOPMENT COMPLIANCE PROGRAM included audits of all major development consents issued since 2006, all roadside advertising signage in rural areas, section 94 contributions for all quarry consents, all development consents issued within the Southern Cross Industrial Estate, and compliance of town centre dining and footpath displays.

DEVELOPMENT SUSTAINABILITY CHECKLIST was designed and is used with all development applications and at pre-lodgement meetings.

CUMBALUM URBAN RELEASE AREA - PLANNING PROPOSALS A & B have the potential to provide approximately 220 hectares of additional land for future residential development. Two major concerns with the proposals were the provision of infrastructure and the stormwater management. The proposals will be forwarded to the Minister provided the proponents provide a Voluntary Planning Agreement that satisfies future infrastructure delivery and a stormwater management system that does not affect downstream private properties and the local ecology.

HENDERSON FARM in Lennox Head is identified in local and regional (State Government) planning documents as land suitable for development. Council's planning proposal to the Minister for Planning outlines land uses to comprise of residential (28.8 hectares – 30.6% of the site), open space (9 hectares – 0.9%), environmental protection (57.8 hectares – 61.4%) and deferred for future investigation (6.7 hectares – 7.1%). For this plan to proceed, Council is asking the proponents to dedicate the carpark area on the eastern side of The Coast Road to Council to ensure that the land is permanently in the hands of the community.

LENNOX HEAD FORESHORE MASTER PLAN was adopted by Council and will guide future improvements to the park, which runs along the beachfront in the main street of Lennox Head.

SOUTHERN CROSS PRECINCT MASTER PLAN focuses on the rezoning of Council land for urban purposes. This Plan will permit a range of uses (including light industrial, bulky goods, live/work, commercial, airport related uses). If approved by the Minister for Planning it will provide additional industrial land and employment in the shire.

WEST BALLINA STUDY AND STRUCTURE PLAN identifies land in West Ballina that is, and is not, potentially suitable for urban land use. The plan also identifies areas requiring environmental management.

BULKY GOODS RETAIL STUDY investigates and analyses land use planning for bulky goods and large format retailing. The outcomes of the study will be incorporated into Council's land use planning framework.

SUSTAINABLE URBAN BUSINESS (SUB) PROJECT was a cooperative approach of local councils within the Richmond River estuary aimed at protecting and enhancing the health of the estuary by minimising the impacts from local businesses. Over 300 businesses were assessed on their environmental performance. This awareness raising program provided individual business operators specific actions to improve their sustainable performance.

The project also enabled Council to undertake restoration and rehabilitation works along the Kingsford Smith Reserve, which also involved local school groups. Overall, the project has been a success and the outcomes from the project will continue well into the future.

people attaining health and wellbeing



progress & achievements

COMMUNITY GARDEN, a first for Ballina Shire, was established at Saunders Oval by the newly formed Ballina Community Gardens Inc. Due to its success, other community gardens are being explored for other parts of the shire.

COMPANION ANIMALS MANAGEMENT PLAN developed in 2010 promotes responsible dog and cat ownership. The plan addresses issues such as public areas where dogs can be exercised on and off-leash, plus the management of pet complaints.

SHARED PATHWAY has been a major focus of Council. The route plan, linking West Ballina to Lennox Head, has been finalised. Construction of this path has progressed with West Ballina now linked to East Ballina, and segments from East Ballina to Lennox Head. Planning approvals are underway for the remaining segments.

SOUTHERN CROSS UNIVERSITY RISING STARS SCHOLARSHIP is supported by Council with a \$15,000 scholarship for a Ballina Shire student studying a full-time, under-graduate degree at the Lismore campus of Southern Cross University.

LIVE WELL WORK WELL PROGRAM A 12-week wellness program was delivered on an annual basis to Council employees with a strong focus on work health and safety.

MAJOR FOOTPATH IMPROVEMENTS were made in Cherry Street, Moon Street, Fox Street, Ballina; Wardell Road, Green Street and The Avenue, Alstonville along with pedestrian refuges in Headlands Drive and Skennars Head Road. The Pedestrian Access and Mobility Plan (PAMP) was reviewed and provides a guide to improving pedestrian facilities in our shire. The boardwalk section adjoining the southern end of Seven Mile Beach is now named in memory of Mr Brian Smith, a long term President of the Lennox Head Residents Association.

SPORTS FIELDS received major improvements including expansion of Saunders Oval. Synthetic hockey turf for Ballina Hockey Club. Temporary sporting facilities at Wollongbar TAFE until new sports fields are provided at Wollongbar. Canteen and toilet facilities at Quays Reserve. Upgraded amenities at Fripp Oval. Cricket nets installed at Skennars Head and Fripp Oval. Sight screens erected at Hill Park. Irrigation systems installed at Fripp Oval, Saunders and Chickiba Ovals. Land purchased for sporting field expansion at Lennox Head and Wollongbar. Lighting upgrade at Quays Reserve, Fripp Oval, Saunders Oval, Kingsford Smith, Chickiba and Skennars Head sports fields.

WATER FLUORIDATION was approved by Council. This decision is still to be implemented due to litigation. Rous Water is the primary authority responsible for the provision of fluoride to Council's water supply.

MENTORING PROGRAM was implemented to encourage development and provide career opportunities for Council employees.

RECREATIONAL WATER FACILITIES were improved through the installation of the Fishery Creek Pontoon, the installation of an additional pontoon at Fawcett Park; installation of a wharf at Wardell and improvements to the Fishery Creek and Emigrant Creek boat ramps.

PLAYGROUNDS AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES now form part of an audit and inspection program. During the past four years, some of the improvements works included:

- Ross, Westland and Kearney Parks – play equipment and shade structure
- Fitzroy Park - play equipment, shade structure, BBQ and picnic facilities
- Elizabeth Ann Brown Park – play equipment, BBQ and picnic facilities
- Lennox Head Park - upgraded bus shelter
- Pat Morton Headland - stairs from carpark to lookout, and stairs installed from informal carpark to beach and named in memory of Shorty Connors, a long-term local surfer.
- Ballina Skakepark - Stage two was completed and shade shelters installed
- Campbell, Kellie Anne Crescent, Commemoration and Chickiba Parks - installed softfall
- Missingham Park - shade structure, softfall and liberty swing for persons with disabilities.

resilient and adaptable communities



progress & achievements

ABORIGINAL HERITAGE STUDY was completed to better manage Aboriginal cultural heritage sites. A MOU was agreed with the JALI Local Aboriginal Land Council to remove NSW Aboriginal Land Claims from Crown land where the Ballina Surf Club is to be constructed. Land at Porter Park was provided, at no cost, to the State Government for the construction of an Aboriginal Child and Family Centre. This centre is due for completion in 2013.

COMMUNITY ANNUAL DONATIONS PROGRAM provided approximately \$100,000 each year in cash support to community organisations and public halls. Rates and charges totalling approximately \$60,000 each year was waived for community groups. Council also continues to support community groups occupying Council-owned or controlled land through rental subsidies or waivers in excess of \$400,000 per annum.

COMMUNITY EVENTS hosted by Council included Heritage, Seniors, NAIDOC, Youth and Bike Weeks; National Tree Day and Fair Go Skateboarding Competition.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING STRATEGY was adopted to promote opportunities for affordable housing in the shire.

COMMUNITY EVENTS AND FESTIVALS - SUPPORT PROGRAM was introduced allocating approximately \$50,000 each year in seed funding to allow events and festivals to commence and grow. Major events supported are Ballina Boat and Leisure Show, Ballina Island Paddle Challenge, Ballina Coastal Country Music Festival, Ballina Fine Food and Wine Festival, Coastal Lifestyle Expo, Lennox Head Carols in the Park and Skull Candy Surf Contest.

DISASTER PLANS were comprehensively reviewed in light of flooding, storm, tornado and other disaster events. A five-year bushfire risk management plan was also completed for the far north coast. Extensions to the SES Emergency Headquarters in Ballina were also completed.

LENNOX HEAD TORNADO devastated parts of Lennox Head on 3 June 2010. Council lobbied the NSW Government to compensate the community for the handling and disposal of asbestos. Council also attended to the public infrastructure repairs and co-ordinated the Local Emergency Management Committee activities. Council received commendations from the Australian Asbestos Foundation and WorkCover for its response to this event.

WORKCOVER AND TAFE PARTNERSHIPS proved positive in improving our health and safety systems and culture, and provided traineeships for staff working in the water and sewer operations area.

ROAD SAFETY awareness activities were delivered to the community such as Bike Week, RRISK (Reduce Risk – Increase Student Knowledge) and the Graduating Licence Scheme.

SHIRE WIDE COMMUNITY BASED HERITAGE STUDY was completed with items and places nominated by the community and through other research being assessed against the NSW Heritage Branch's heritage significance criteria, resulting in heritage values attributed to each of these items and places.

SUPPORTED EMPLOYMENT SERVICE PROGRAM is the only one of its kind in local government on the far north coast. We employ 14 people with disabilities in our Open Spaces and Reserves section. This program empowers people with disabilities and helps them develop new skills, encourages independence and enhances their position in the workplace and broader community.

YOUTH COUNCIL was established to improve Council's understanding of issues relating to young people in the shire.

responsible and efficient use of resources



progress & achievements

AWARD WINNING FOOD SURVEILLANCE PROGRAM ensures that consumers receive safe and suitable food from hygienic establishments. Over 260 food premises and 54 temporary and mobile vendors are inspected. Recent work undertaken by Council's Environmental Health Team was acknowledged with a Food Surveillance Champion Award from the NSW Food Authority.

COMMERCIAL WASTE BUSINESS was sold as part of our ongoing operational reviews. It was unviable to purchase new plant for the business.

FINANCIAL PLANNING POLICY was adopted and establishes a set of financial indicators to guide Council's financial performance in the short to medium term, and a framework for our long-term financial sustainability. The NSW Treasury Corporation completed a Financial Assessment and Benchmark report as part of our funding application under the NSW Government's Local Infrastructure Renewal Scheme, with Council successfully obtaining \$9.3 million in low interest loans.

GRAVE DIGGING SYSTEM was an innovation developed by staff to ensure the safety of staff involved in the hand digging of graves in the sandy soils at the East Ballina and Wardell cemeteries. The system was a finalist in the NSW Workcover Awards.

FLEET MANAGEMENT was overhauled with the implementation of the AUSFLEET management system. There has been a significant shift from large to medium and small vehicles with the introduction of a target of a 3.5 green star rating for our passenger vehicles. To reduce our reliance on external contractors an extra \$1.3 million was allocated to purchase additional heavy plant (i.e. backhoe, roller, tipping trucks, water truck, mini excavator and self propelled roller).

INFORMATION SYSTEMS were upgraded throughout Council's operations to improve productivity, legislative compliance, auditing requirements and customer service. Staff underwent a technology skills audit to identify the areas they require training. Staff productivity has also increased with the introduction of mobile devices. IPads were introduced for Councillor use.

RESOURCE SHARING arrangements with other local government areas were pursued to increase efficiencies and cost savings, they included:

- Waste Management processing and transport of recyclables - Joint tender with Lismore City Council - Estimated savings \$75,000 per year
- Internal Audit Services - Joint tender with Richmond Valley Council - Estimated savings \$15,000 per year
- Myroadinfo regional website, a concept originally developed by Ballina Shire Council, now supplied under NOROC licence to several other regional areas of councils. Arrangements with the NSW Roads and Maritime Services (RMS) now provides the live exchange of information between myroadinfo and the RMS livetraffic website.

REVENUE GENERATION Council has long recognised that rate income is insufficient to fund all infrastructure demands of our community. Council pursued additional non-standard income through other activities, including:

- Lease and construction of an industrial building on Council-owned land to one of Australia's blue chip companies, Australian Reinforcing Concrete (ARC) Pty Ltd.
- Sale of residential and industrial land. Major industrial land sale of \$6.1 million to Harvey Norman, with its new shopping centre opening in 2011.
- Sale of surplus operational land at Lennox Head to the North Coast Accommodation Trust, for future use as part of the Lake Ainsworth Holiday Park
- Sale of the Council owned animal shelter to Northern Rivers Animal Services. Sale proceeds will be used for the construction of a contemporary shelter on adjoining land. The new shelter is currently being designed.

SPECIAL RATE VARIATION was approved from the NSW Minister for Local Government to increase rates by six percent over four years from 2010/11. Increased revenue will be used towards additional capital works eg: roads, footpaths, buildings and community facilities.

WASTE – GREEN WASTE COLLECTION SERVICE was introduced resulting in a 40% reduction in the waste being transferred to Council's landfill, which in turn will increase the life span of the existing landfill.

transparent and accountable governance



progress & achievements

BALLINA LEP RENEWAL – COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT was paramount to ensure that the entire community had a chance to have their say on the new Local Environmental Plan. A brief overview of exhibition statistics:

- Six exhibition locations plus a dedicated website
- Website: 1,583 site hits and 17,056 page views
- Media: 45 print media articles, five radio and one television interviews
- Five community briefings plus four street stalls

CLIMATE ACTION STRATEGY - CONSULTATION with the community was conducted to consider the issue of climate change. The Climate Ballina Conversation Café saw over 100 randomly selected community members discuss their concerns and possible solutions to climate change. A smaller group then attended a Citizens Jury deliberation event. A number of speakers addressed the Citizens Jury. The Jury then developed 53 recommendations which now form the basis of the Climate Action Strategy for Ballina Shire.

COUNCIL POLICIES guide our practices and processes. During the term of Council, we reviewed over 80 policies to reflect current industry practices, community expectations and legislation. The community is invited to provide submissions to all polices we review and create.

DEVELOPER CONTRIBUTION PLAN REVIEWS were completed for its Section 94 Plans for Open Space and Community Facilities (2009) and Roads (2010). These reviews are necessary to ensure that revenue from development is realistic to deliver a contemporary infrastructure program.

INTERNAL AUDIT PROGRAM was established to assess our processes, with BDO Kendall (now Grant Thornton & Associates) appointed as the internal auditors following a joint tender with Richmond Valley Council.

COMMUNITY AWARENESS AND PROMOTION OF COUNCIL ACTIVITIES are key to improving communication with the community. We started the production of Community Connect, distributed to 22,000 residents and businesses, and eNews emailed to over 700 subscribers. A mayoral column is published monthly in the Ballina Shire Advocate. The General Manager provides a monthly update on the Council meeting, projects and issues on the local community radio station, 101.9 Paradise FM.

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES SECTION is primarily responsible for the assessment of development applications. Council engaged a consultant to assess procedures, work responsibilities and technical and professional capacity of this section of council. The assessment included consultation with prominent private sector planning consultancy firms. The final report contains a number of recommendations that are systematically being implemented, where considered appropriate, across the organisation.

INTEGRATED PLANNING AND REPORTING Council was one of the first local government authorities to be compliant with the Division of Local Government's integrated planning and reporting framework which sets the future direction for Council.

PLANNING LITIGATION cases relating to certain planning decisions were brought against Council. Council proved successful in most cases with costs being awarded to Council, or opposing parties proving unsuccessful on appeal. Further details can be found in the full version of the End of Term Report on Council's website.

what do our residents think?

The results from the latest Ballina Shire Community Survey, conducted in August 2012 are in.

500 residents (sample) were randomly surveyed on a number of issues relating to the Ballina Shire including what they thought about Council's performance. This sample size ensures that the survey results provide a 95% accuracy rate. Results are given an average rating out of 5; with 1.99 or less being 'very low' to 4.50+ being 'extremely high' level of importance/satisfaction/support. Overall results were generally positive with 32 of 39 services/facilities rated 'moderate satisfaction' to 'very high satisfaction'.

The top rating services and facilities in terms of satisfaction were (in order):

- Libraries
- Water supply
- Beaches and foreshores
- Garbage collection and recycling options
- Ballina Byron Gateway Airport.

The lowest average scores were recorded for (in order of dissatisfaction):

- Affordable housing
- Roads
- Management of development
- Economic development
- Youth services

The services with the highest performance gap (ie. the difference between perceived importance and satisfaction) were:

- Roads
- Crime prevention and law and order initiatives
- Overall health of the Richmond River
- Management of development
- Affordable housing.

As part of the Community Survey, we asked residents how supportive they were of a number of community infrastructure projects that Council has in its forward planning programs. The overall priority ranking and their scores are *listed in the table to the right*.

This information will help Council plan its priorities for the next four years. A more detailed analysis of the 2012 Community Research results can be downloaded from Council's website www.ballina.nsw.gov.au

Rank	Description	Score
1	Ballina Coastguard Tower Reconstruction	3.98
2	Lennox Head Surf Club Reconstruction	3.70
3	Ballina Swimming Pool Upgrade	3.68
4	River Street Ballina Upgrade (finalisation)	3.56
equal 5	Four-Court Indoor Sports Hall, Ballina	3.42
equal 5	Two-Court Indoor Sports/Events Centre, Ballina	3.42
7	Skennars Head Sportsfields Expansion	3.31
8	Alstonville Swimming Pool Upgrade	3.30



FREE CHILD RESTRAINT SAFETY CHECKS

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

Parents and carers residing in the Ballina Shire can visit Council's Customer Service Centre in Cherry Street 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 during 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 the voucher can contact Council's Road Safety Officer on 6686 4444.

The child restraint vouchers are **valid until 30 June 2013** and conditions apply.



FLOODPLAIN PHOTOGRAPH ARCHIVE

Do you have some historic photographs of floods around Ballina or other locations in the Ballina Shire?

Council is compiling a photographic archive of flood events in the Ballina Shire as part of our draft Floodplain Risk Management Study.

We are particularly interested in photographs of the 1954 and 1974 floods. These two floods are considered significant due to the coverage of floodwater.

Council is also interested in receiving photos of flood events in your local area outside of these years.

Council staff will digitally scan photographs before returning them to you. It is anticipated that an interactive web resource will be created that will enable the community to view the material.

Enquiries: Suzanne Acret, Sustainability Programs Co-ordinator, Ph 6686 1284.



BALLINA SHIRE AUSTRALIA DAY AWARDS - NOMINATIONS OPEN OCTOBER

There is a great community spirit in the Ballina Shire and it is time to start thinking about nominations for the 2013 Ballina Shire Australia Day Awards.

The annual awards program is an opportunity for members of the community to be recognised for their outstanding achievements and commitment to our shire. Award recipients will be announced at the official Australia Day celebrations on Saturday, 26 January 2013.

The five award categories for nomination for 2013 are:

- Young Citizen of the Year
- Citizen of the Year
- Volunteer of the Year
- Sports Person of the Year
- Community Event of the Year

Nomination forms will be available from the official website **www.ballinaaustraliaday.com.au** or Council's Customer Service Centre, 40 Cherry Street, Ballina from Monday 22 October 2012.

Nominations close: 2pm Friday 4 January 2013.

Enquiries: Holly Archibald, Events & Grants Support Officer, Ph 6686 1457 email hollya@ballina.nsw.gov.au

DISPLAY OUR HOUSE NUMBERS CLEARLY



Have you ever considered that your house number could save your life?

House numbers not only ensure your mail gets delivered correctly, but a clearly displayed house or property number will help police, ambulance and other emergency services find you easily when you need it most.

Please check the number on your letterbox or driveway. Make sure it is large enough to be read from the road and is not obstructed by parked cars, trees or gardens.

REGIONAL APPROACH TO STATE OF ENVIRONMENT

The Northern Rivers Catchment Management Authority

(NRCMA) is preparing a Regional State of Environment (SOE) Report for 2012 on behalf of twelve local councils and three county councils from Port Macquarie to Tweed Heads.

One of the main aims for the report is to provide information to the community and decision-makers on the condition of the local environment and where resources might be best placed to respond to community expectations.

Reporting themes

The indicators developed for the report cover four key themes and 18 resource categories which support the State natural resource management targets.

The indicators focus on the condition of the environment to inform both the community and decision-makers on how to best allocate resources, and to provide a baseline of environmental conditions for the next SOE report in 2016.

Biodiversity/ Vegetation	Soils/ Landuse	Water	People & the Environment
Resilient landscapes	Soils	Freshwater and estuarine rivers	Regional characteristics
Native vegetation restoration	Land use	Wetlands	Population characteristics & change
Conservation: Reserves and agreements	Acid sulphate soils	Groundwater	Population pressures on catchments
Native flora and fauna		Near-shore marine	Greenhouse gases
Invasive species			Surface water, Waste

UPCOMING EVENTS



BALLINA TWILIGHT MARKETS

Thursday evenings during daylight savings

Commencing 11 October 2012
4.00pm - 8.00pm

Fawcett Park, Ballina

The market will feature local produce, musicians and guest artisans who will showcase their talents. Bring your grocery bags for your shopping and enjoy a delicious dinner on the bank of the Richmond River.

Contact: Justine Lucas 0419 688 816.



Ballina Twilight Markets managed & operated by Westpac Life Saver Rescue Helicopter under license for Ballina Shire Council

LENNOX HEAD CAROLS IN THE PARK

Sunday 2 December 2012

5.30pm - 9.00pm

Williams Reserve, Lennox Head
Alcohol Free Event

www.lennoxchamber.com.au

RIVERSIDE CAROLS BALLINA & DISTRICT

Sunday 9 December 2012

6.30pm - 9.00pm

Seagulls Football Oval
Alcohol Free Event

www.riversidecarols.org.au



BALLINA SHIRE COUNCIL COMMUNITY FACILITIES

communityfacilities@ballina.nsw.gov.au

Kentwell Community Centre

(formerly Ballina Community Services Centre)

20 Bangalow Road Ballina NSW 2478.
Phone: 6681 5549

- Broadband for Seniors (free computer training)
- The Silversmiths (singing group)
- Deportment and Grooming
- Diamond Focus (business networking)
- SOL North Coast Nutrition
- Sing Australia
- Ballina Camera Club, INTRA -The Buttery's Drug & Alcohol Outreach Program
- Breast Cancer Support Group
- Neways International
- Interrelate Family Centres
- Tarmons House Mental Health Outreach Service and more!



Lennox Head Cultural and Community Centre

Corner of Park Lane and Mackney Lane
Lennox Head NSW 2478. Phone: 6687 6291

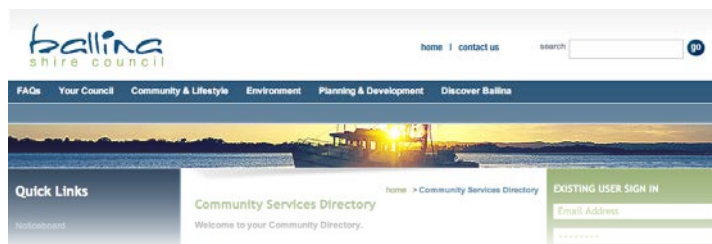
- Lennox Head Playgroup
 - Lennox Head Residents Association
 - Playconnect (Playgroup for children with Autism Spectrum Disorders)
 - Community Health Nurse: Early Childhood Clinic, Psychologist/ Psychotherapy Services
 - Lifeball (sport for seniors)
 - Netball
 - Yoga
 - Wheelchair Sports
 - Mind Yoga
 - Futsal
 - Casual Sports
 - Library services and more!
- Available for meetings, functions, parties and community events.



The Richmond Room

Regatta Ave Ballina NSW 2478.
Phone: 6687 6291

Large function room available for meetings, functions, parties and community events.



ONLINE COMMUNITY SERVICES DIRECTORY

Council now has an online Community Directory, a guide to organisations and groups that service the Ballina Shire community. The directory provides key contact information about health, welfare, education, recreation, sporting and other community services.

Directory listings are self-maintained by individual organisations and groups. To view the Community Directory or to add your group's details look under Online Services on Council's homepage at www.ballina.nsw.gov.au

*In this edition of Community Connect we shine the spotlight on a local community group that provides a vital service, **Ballina Breast Cancer Support Group...***



EARLY DETECTION saves lives

Breast Screen NSW offers free mammograms at its Lismore clinic. The **Ballina Breast Cancer Support Group** can assist in providing transport to Lismore for individuals who require it.

Enquiries: Robyn Sparks Ph: 0413 027 446.



...and stay connected
with *your* council

visit www.ballina.nsw.gov.au
and follow the links to subscribe
or call 6686 4444 for further information