



Clarence community news

JANUARY 2012



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Whats on at the Grafton Regional Gallery

graftongallery.nsw.gov.au



Grafton Regional Gallery is planning a blockbuster year in 2012 with a mix of internationally acclaimed exhibitions, locally produced content and engaging programs for the entire community.

Tracey Moffatt: narratives
8 February to 25 March

Features three important photographic series by the internationally recognised Australian photographer Tracey Moffatt: Up in the sky (1997), Invocations (2000) and the searing 1994 series Scarred for life. The work reflects Moffatt's interest in popular visual culture and how art engages audiences in ruminations on race, Australian history, mythology, childhood, memory and gender. A Monash Gallery of Art Travelling Exhibition.

Shell-shocked:
Australia after Armistice
28 March to 20 May

Explores the personal impact of war on Australian men, women and children and the nation's attempts to recover from the loss or injury of almost three-quarters of its soldiers serving overseas. It shows how the nation channelled its grief into public commemoration, honouring the fallen with national monuments and numerous small town memorials.

The exhibition features photographs, personal letters, service files and memorabilia from the National Archives collection. Presented by the National Archives of Australia with the assistance of the Department of Veterans' Affairs and Visions of Australia.

Image and acknowledgement:
1. Tracey Moffatt - Useless, 1974 from the series Scarred for life 1994 offset print 80 x 60 cm Monash Gallery of Art, City of Monash Collection Courtesy of the artist and Roslyn Oxley9 Gallery
2. Millinery classes for soldiers' widows, c.1918-19, NAA: 8298011.

To have information emailed directly to you join the artist e-news at www.graftongallery.nsw.gov.au

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VALLEY COUNCIL

Mayoral message



In 2012 a new waste management service will be introduced to the Clarence Valley. The delivery of an effective and cost efficient waste management service is a fundamental role of Local Government and can make a significant contribution to the sustainability of our community. I encourage you to read the information included with this rate notice, make a decision regarding your yellow recycling bin and advise Council.

The Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal of NSW (IPART) has announced it has determined a maximum allowable increase of council's rate revenue for 2012/13 of 3.6%. This equates to an advance of 0.4% included in the rate pegging limit and whilst this will increase individual rates, it will certainly assist in covering costs associated with ensuring services and infrastructure are maintained.

Community members of the Business Rate Review Advisory Group have worked diligently to develop options for Council's business rates structure. At its meeting in November, Council resolved to incorporate the recommendations of the Advisory Group in to the draft 2012/13 Rating Structure. I would like to thank the members of the Advisory Group for contributing their valuable time and skills to the process.

Councillor Richie Williamson
Mayor



Make sure the area around your water meter is free of long grass, bushes, tree limbs and debris

Water meter care

Every three (3) months Council staff need to access your property to read your water meter. Normally it only takes a few moments to read your meter but sometimes this simple job is made difficult or unsafe.

Every water customer has a responsibility to ensure meter readers have reasonable access to the water meter. Next time you are in the yard take a few moments to check the area around your meter.

If needed, trim grass, bushes, tree limbs and remove any debris to ensure there is a clear space of at least 30cm around, 20cm below and 120cm above your water meter. If your dog is aggressive please ensure it's kept under control.

The water meter reader appreciates your cooperation!

Reducing power bills



Even though we think we are doing enough to be energy efficient, we can always do a little more. Clarence Valley Council is one of 36 local councils to receive funding from the NSW Government to promote the free Home Power Savings Program and Save Power website.

These two NSW Government initiatives can help you to save power, reduce your energy use, and put more money in your pocket.

The Home Power Savings Program is open to eligible Centrelink and Department of Veterans Affairs cardholders as well as social housing tenants or energy utility hardship customers.

The free program offers households a kit of power saving devices, a home power assessment by an energy expert and a power savings action plan.

The Save Power website also provides a range of resources to promote energy efficiency and includes tips on energy efficient heating, cooling, refrigeration and lighting for all households, businesses and public facilities.

Call 1300 662 416 today to book your free assessment or for hints and tips visit www.savepower.nsw.gov.au.

For further information contact the Project Officer (Sustainability & Climate Change) on 6643 0200.

Crime - report it, don't ignore it

Reporting crime gives Police the real picture of crime in our community, sends a message to offenders that crime is treated seriously and may act as a deterrent.

Emergency 000

Life threatening situations or crimes in progress

Police Assistance Line 131 444

Report non-life threatening crime

Crime Stoppers 1800 333 000

Report criminal/suspicious behaviour anonymously

Grafton Police 6642 0222 (24 hrs)

Yamba Police 6603 0199

Lopping, chopping or clearing?

Are you clearing land or engaged under contract to clear land? If so, you need to know the rules that apply in NSW.

Under the Native Vegetation Act 2003 it is an offence to clear native vegetation unless you are properly authorised, such as clearing in accordance with development consent granted under the Act or a Property Vegetation Plan.

Native vegetation plays an important role in protecting land from erosion and landslip, waterways from degradation and increasing farm productivity by providing windbreaks, shade and sheltering pastures.

High resolution imagery is used by the Office of Environment and Heritage to monitor land clearing and changes in the extent of native vegetation



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To find out more online: www.environment.nsw.gov.au/vegetation/publications.htm

Who should I contact?

CLEARING

Urban areas
Clarence Valley Council
02 6643 0200

Rural areas
Northern Rivers Catchment
Management Authority
02 6642 0622

Private native forestry
Office Environment & Heritage
02 6640 2550

Reporting possible illegal clearing
Office Environment & Heritage
131 555



Major projects

Projects completed in 2011:

- Hickey Island carpark, boat parking and picnic improvements
- Woombah boat ramp
- Junction Hill Bike Criterion Track
- Fisher Park upgrade:
 - new cricket pavilion
 - tennis courts
 - hockey dormitory
- Ellem Oval extension and fencing
- Yamba CBD town improvements
- Harbour St Yamba upgrade
- Stage 4 Gulmarrad Cycleway
- Marandowie Drive Cycleway
- Iluka Bay Pontoon
- Improve flood pump capacity in Grafton and Maclean
- Iluka Sports Field Lighting
- Yamba Oval No2 lighting
- Harwood pontoon

Projects for 2012:

- Iluka Sewerage System
- Grafton Hockey Complex upgrade
- Refurbishment of South Grafton Community Pool
- South Grafton CBD Upgrade including Lane Boulevard
- South Riverside Precinct
- Construction of Out of the Box youth facilities
- Yamba Rock Pool upgrade
- Ulmarra pontoon

Health information



A new brochure has been produced by the Health Advisory Committee containing contact details for various health services, including mental health, community health centres, the Aboriginal medical centre and some useful 'hotline' phone numbers.

Information about transport options to get to medical appointments is also included.

Brochures are available from:

- Community centres in Grafton and Yamba
- Local libraries
- Council offices in Grafton and Maclean

For further information please contact Community Development Officer, Susan Howland on 6645 0001 or susan.howland@clarence.nsw.gov.au

'Chatty' kitchen upgrade



We all know the reputation of country cooks and the Country Women's Association, Chatsworth Island Branch, are no exception. As regular users of kitchen facilities in the Chatsworth Island Hall they knew it needed some sprucing up.

Recent renovation works undertaken by Council included replacement of flooring, benches, sink, pantry, cupboards and hot water system. As well as a much needed coat of paint, a new microwave oven, dishwasher and instant hot water system. The hall has also been provided with additional "mity lite" tables and trolley.

The upgrade of the kitchen will boost the hall hire by providing modern and clean facilities for local community and private functions.

For Chatsworth Island hall bookings contact Council on 02 6643 0200.

Contacting your councillors

RICHIE WILLIAMSON, MAYOR
p: 6643 0245 m: 0427 457382
e: richie.williamson@clarence.nsw.gov.au

CRAIG HOWE, DEPUTY MAYOR
m: 0429 403344
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e: ian.tiley@clarence.nsw.gov.au

KAREN TOMS
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e: karen.toms@clarence.nsw.gov.au

POSTAL ADDRESS:
Locked Bag 23, Grafton 2460

Connect with your council

CUSTOMER SERVICE
for all enquiries: 6643 0200

AFTER HOURS EMERGENCY CONTACT: 6626 6858

POSTAL ADDRESS:
Locked Bag 23, Grafton 2460

FACSIMILE: 6642 7647

STREET ADDRESS:
Grafton Office - 2 Prince St
Macleans Office - 50 River St

EMAIL:
council@clarence.nsw.gov.au

WEB:
www.clarence.nsw.gov.au

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New waste collection

Bin replacement program

In the lead up to the new waste service commencing in July 2012, all households currently receiving a yellow recycling service will be issued with a new yellow recycling bin. The larger bin (360 litres) will offer you a greater capacity for recycling and, with the central divider removed, will make it easier to recycle by eliminating the need to sort your paper and cardboard from plastics, steel and glass.

Residents do have the option of keeping their existing 240 litre yellow bins if manoeuvrability or space is an issue. To retain your existing recycling bin you will need to let Council know BEFORE February 29 by completing the accompanying Request to Keep My 240 litre Bin, and returning it to Council. If we don't receive your request to keep your 240 litre bin, a 360 litre bin will be delivered to your residence during May-June 2012.

What can be collected in your yellow recycling bin won't change - all hard plastics, glass, steel, aluminium, clean foil, paper and cardboard should be recycled. The replacement of your green bin and damaged red bins will also take place at this time.

Do you have a special waste disposal need? The change from a weekly red bin service to a fortnightly collection will have many positive waste diversion outcomes. However, there will be some members of our community with special needs that may be severely challenged by this change. If you have a long term medical condition or another special need, you are encouraged to let us know by writing to the General Manager, Locked Bag 23, Grafton 2460.

For further information please contact Suzanne Lynch on 6643 0223.



Clarence's uniform planning controls

Council is hopeful that at the time of publication a single set of planning controls for the Valley will be in place.

Seven years in the making, the Clarence Valley Local Environmental Plan 2011 (LEP) was expected to be approved by the State Government by Christmas 2011, or very soon thereafter. The new LEP replaces the six local environmental plans that have applied since amalgamation.

A number of the more important changes implemented by the new LEP were widely canvassed when the plan was on public exhibition and Council understands they have been retained in the final LEP.

The community is encouraged to contact Council's Strategic Planning Section for details and how the new LEP may affect their property on 66430200.

For all the latest news a weekly information column is published in both the Clarence Valley Review (Wednesday) and The Daily Examiner (Friday).