

Burke Shire Council Newsletter



Edition 24 : December 2009

Christmas message from the Mayor

This time of year is filled with waiting. We wait for the storms to start. We wait for the evenings to cool after our brooding hot days. We wait for school to be finished and our children at boarding schools to come home. Our Year twelve students wait for graduation and then wait for their results so they know which path to take. We wait for the welcome break up after the work of the year, but I reckon we mainly wait for the magical day of Christmas.

I wish with hope that we may all give ourselves and each other friendship, understanding and consideration as we have been told; "LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOUR AS YOU LOVE YOURSELF" in the Good Book. Whether you believe in the religious message of "LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD" or not, the message of caring for others is a good one. I hope with faith in

all of us that we can move on from any turmoil that may have been in our lives this past year; be gentle and kind to ourselves and accept what has been given to us and what we give to others is the best and most generous way to celebrate the season of Christmas.

God bless you all; I extend friendship and good will to you and your families on behalf of Council and Staff. Thank you for your friendship and goodwill and I look forward to working for and with you all in the coming year. Have wonderful and magical Merry Christmas.

Annie Clarke
Mayor of Burke Shire Council



**Cr Tonya
Murray**

It's been a busy 2009 with many ups and downs ranging from flood impacts & people moving on to new babies & bridges. But it's that time of year again with mangoes, storm clouds and celebrations. May you all enjoy the festive holidays with family and friends, keep safe and have a very MERRY CHRISTMAS.



**Cr Ernie
Camp**

This year's massive flooding caused a late start to the work season which meant that the year commenced on a very busy note. The end of the year has been no less hectic. As Councillor I have been to several meetings in the last couple of months. I have travelled to Normanton to attend a Gulf Savannah Development Forum (along with other Councillors), a Counter Disaster Management Meeting and a Regional Roads Group Meeting. I have also attended, along with my fellow Councillors, Training Days in Cairns and Mt Isa in order to familiarize myself with the new Act that comes into effect in 2010. I have just returned from a Stock Routes Review Information Session in

Georgetown. It was an honour to welcome Her Excellency Penelope Wensley to our community and have her officially open the new bridge. I would like to wish all council staff, community members and their families a joyous festive season. It is a time to catch up with family and friends, relax and enjoy the benefits of our unique area and lifestyle. Looking forward to catching up with you at the Community Christmas Party in December: Best Wishes – Cr Ernie Camp.



**Cr Tracey
Forshaw**

We wish you a Merry Christmas, we wish you a Merry Christmas, and we wish you a Merry Christmas and a

Happy New Year. The last year has been up and down, but we have now got a wonderful team running the show, and I personally have already seen the good results from this. Thank you to all of the Council Staff and Burke Shire Residents for your patience and effort in 2009 in making our community the best to live, work and play in. I would like to congratulate everyone involved in the Bridge Opening. It was a truly magical night, and my sincere thanks to everybody, from our CEO and office staff to the blokes and ladies in the background who made things just happened. Through teamwork we can achieve the extraordinary, so let's bring on 2010 and have the best year yet.



Images courtesy of Burke Shire Council, Tourism Queensland and various local photographers.

Burke Shire Council PO Box 90 BURKETOWN QLD 4830

Phone: 07 4745 5100 Fax: 07 4745 5181 email: office@burke.qld.gov.au website: burkeshirecouncil.com



Proudly brought to you by:



Message from the CEO



Well the time has come to get out the tree, string up the lights and plan Christmas celebrations. I do hope as many of you as possible will join us on Saturday 12 December for our community Christmas in the Park.

While this will be a low key event, say compared to a certain bridge opening, it will be a wonderful time to say 'Merry Christmas' to friends and neighbours from around the Shire. Santa will of course make an appearance and have a wee something in his sack for the little children. Each child will also have their photo taken with Santa.

Our good mates at Skytrans have donated tickets to a Taipans home game in Cairns on December 18, including airfares and

accommodation for two. How generous. Each adult who attends Christmas in the Park will go into the draw to be the lucky winner. Now that would be a great pre Christmas treat !

I hope you are enjoying the new format of our newsletter. Once again we have Skytrans to thank. The graphic design team used by Skytrans has worked it's magic on our newsletter and we now have a more professional, easy to read publication. Flip straight to the back page to catch up on all that is Skytrans.

Also in this edition you will find details of Council's Christmas closure dates, a round up of Council and community happenings, an upcoming events calendar and more. Please grab a cuppa and sit down for a good read.

My family and I will be spending Christmas and the New Year right here in Burketown. So I will look forward to seeing you poolside or down the park stomping in rain puddles with my boys.

On a more serious note do take some time to make those last few preparations for the wet season. Stock up on dry goods and canned items, buy those extra batteries and remove the rubbish that might become a hazard from around your home. A little work now might save some real heartache if we have another monster wet like you experienced this year or if we have the misfortune to be in the path of a

tropical cyclone. If you are unsure what needs to be done please contact Jenny Williams at Council who can share some great information with you.

In closing my thanks goes to Councillors and officers alike, who have made my first few months in the chair a real pleasure. In particular Dennis Kerr and Zoe Belz deserve a real shout out for being the team of two that supports my efforts across the diverse range of matters managed by Council. Jenny Williams has provided me with A+ support services and has shared with me an amazing depth of local knowledge. I would take this opportunity to welcome new team members to Council, including Mike, Christine and Scott.

My special thanks goes to everyone who keeps us rolling forward on a day to day basis, from driving road trains – thanks Col, through to cleaning pools – thanks Jaidine, doing the dead roo run – thanks Dowse, to keeping Gregory kicking on – thanks Kym, and everyone in between, too numerous to name, but believe me I know who you are, in a good way of course. So take care, relax and get merry. My best to you and your family over the holiday season,

Council Update

Community Wellbeing

- Mayor, Councillor Annie Clarke has been in communication with Dr Dennis Pashen with regards the establishment of a Burketown Remote Area Nursing Scholarship. Council is investigating the proposed scholarship concept and report back to Council with regards implications for Council. This role would be placed at the Burketown Hospital.

The Environment

- The Department of Environment and Resource Management have released the Draft Queensland Coastal Management Plan for public consultation. The plan and supporting information can be viewed online at www.derm.qld.gov.au/coastalplan. Council

will make a submission and express concern regarding blanket statements that will impact on the future economic and social wellbeing of the shire.

- The Office of Clean Energy and Burke Shire Council are progressing the Burke Shire Energy Conservation Pilot Project.
- The Burke Shire Council Drought Management Plan (DMP) was adopted by Council. The plan does have some fairly demanding requirements regarding water usage and restrictions however it has been designed that there is provision for adequate allowances of water to keep a desirable green look about the towns with some management and logistical manoeuvres. The Council endorsed the DMP acknowledging that as a revisable document and ongoing

monitoring and changes may be required from time to time.

The Road Network

- Council has endorsed the expenditure of the \$600,000 Category FTIDS Funds for 2009-2010 on the 5.0 km section starting at 51 kms from the Doomadgee-Gregory-Burketown intersection and finishing at 56 kms from the said intersection of the Doomadgee Road East.
- There are several roads within the Shire that will qualify for NDRRA Flood Damage. The submission for the first phase of the event is now complete and submitted to the Departments of Main Roads and Local Government for consideration by

Emergency Management Qld (EMQ) and total approximately \$8million.

- Council have learnt that restoration works planned by Main Roads are to be undertaken immediately at Beames Brook Bridge. Councils will communicate with main Roads it's extreme disappointment that no contingency plan has been made to allow access for vehicles over 25 tonne to continue during the planned two month restoration works. Further, that Council emphasis the economic and social impact this will cause for the communities of the Burketown, Gregory and Doomadgee, during the crucial dry season. Also the added expense and imposition this will bring to service providers such as long haul transporters and the likely outcome that they will pass these costs onto consumers. Council recommends the installation of a Bailey bridge for the duration of the restoration works.

Events

- Council sponsored a one colour page in the Mount Isa School of the Air annual school magazine for the cost of \$75.00.
- Council approved the Burketown Rodeo Committee request for in-kind assistance for rodeo preparation to a dollar value of \$1500.00 ex gst
- Council donated \$75.00 to the Gregory Downs School P&C towards its Trivia Night that was held on 31 October 2009.
- Endorsement of the allocation of proceeds from the auction at the 2009 Arts and Craft Show was : The Royal Flying Doctors Service – 60% The Burke Shire Christmas Celebration – 40%

Administrative Matters

- Council is tidying up some matters in relation to a trust fund that was established some years ago. Unclaimed sale of land proceeds amounting to \$17,958.01 have been forwarded to the Public Trustee as is required under Legislation. A request to transfer the Senior Citizens fund raising amount of \$793.30 to HACC funding be approved.
- A meeting of the trustees of the Burke Shire Emergency Trust Fund is to be called to finalise some remaining details.

Economic Issues

- The Department of Environment and Resource Management (DERM) is seeking public feedback on a stakeholder-led review into the management and use of the stock

route network (SRN) in Queensland. The review is proposing a number of fee changes, which are outlined in the RIS—Stock Route Network Management Regulation 2009 . DERM consulted a panel of stock route users and managers on the proposed recommendations. Council is seeking assurances from the Department of Environment Resource Management that no stock routes are to be closed under the proposed RIS State Wide Stock Route Network Management Regulation 2009. Further Council is seeking clarification as to which stock routes within Burke Shire are to be designated active and inactive. To this end a representative from DERM is coming to speak to Council and interested property owners at the November meeting.

Telecommunications

- Council is writing to Optus requesting an update with regards their current plans for service provision at Burketown.
- Council is writing to Telstra highlighting the lack of engagement from Senior Officers regarding requests from community groups relating to phone services for Gregory. Council is requesting that Telstra provide an update regarding their current plans for service provision at Gregory.

Gregory

- At a previous Council meeting a decision was made to call for Public Submissions on the proposed name change of Gregory Downs to Gregory. Submissions were called for by September 30 2009. Council will now write to the Department of Environment and Natural Resource Management requesting that under the Q150 Celebrations Program and after due opportunity for and consideration of comments from residents that Burke Shire Council request that the township of Gregory Downs be renamed as Gregory.

Councillor Travel for Delegations, Meetings and Training

- The Mayor; Councillor Annie Clarke attended the Southern Gulf Catchments AGM - Saturday 26 September at Hughenden
- The Deputy Mayor; Councillor Ernie Camp and Councillor Tonya Murray, together with the CEO and the Director of Finance and Community Services attended a training day in Mount Isa with regards the new Local Government Act and it's implications.

Call for Nominations

Council invites interested persons and organisations to submit nominations for the 2010 Australia Day Awards (Local Government Section). Expressions of interest are also being sought from individuals to represent the community on the awards judging panel, which will reflect the various interests and constituencies of the community.

The three award categories for this year are: Citizen of the Year; Young Citizen of the Year; and Junior Sports Award. The awards are part of a family of awards coordinated through the National Australia Day Council.

The Citizen of the Year awards are presented to individuals whom have made a noteworthy contribution to the community during the current year and/or given outstanding service to the local community over a number of years. Whilst the awards recognise outstanding personal achievement they also celebrate the remarkable contributions individuals are making to their community.

The Junior Sports Award is presented to an individual who has made a noteworthy record of achievement in sport or has made a significant contribution to sport as a coach, official or administrator.

Award nomination forms may be obtained from the Burke Shire Office, Musgrave Street, Burketown:- telephone (07) 4745 5100, facsimile (07) 4745 5181 or e-mail: office@burke.qld.gov.au Nominations marked "2010 Australia Day Nomination" must be received at the Burke Shire Office by 4:00pm Friday 8 January 2010. Nominations can be hand delivered, mailed, faxed or e-mailed.

For those members of the community that may be interested in judging the awards, please provide an expression of interest by 11 December 2009.

Weather permitting the awards will be presented at the Council's Australia Day Event which will be held at the Shire Hall in Burketown on 26 January 2010. In the event of inclement weather the presentations will be incorporated with Council's Anzac Day function on 25 April 2010.



Building Bridges

The Governor of Queensland, Her Excellency Ms Penelope Wensley opened the Gumbummunda River Bridge on 26th October 2009.

The community turned out in force to see Her Excellency cut the ribbon with George Watson, School of the Air senior student Roy Fisher, Burketown School captain Aiden Portch and Gregory School captain Nicole Forshaw.

Our Mayor, Councillor Annie Clarke, Deputy Mayor, Councillor Ernie Camp, Councillor Tonya Murray and Councillor Tracy Forshaw were thrilled that the community of Burke Shire were there to celebrate this feat. One hundred and fifty guests walked the bridge with the Governor.

The Gumbummunda Bridge is a great achievement for the shire. The bridge builders, Nelmac were also here for the bridge opening.

In a real act of generosity Nelmac Directors pledged a donation of \$2000.00 to the Burketown School.

There were many other distinguished guests, including representatives from our traditional owner group, elected representatives and senior officers from Carpentaria, Croyden and Cloncurry Shires, the General Manager of Skytrans and of course the families and communities from all around Burke Shire.

A lovely dinner was served on the bridge as the sun was setting over the river. All guests received a golden water bottle to commemorate the opening of the bridge. An event like this doesn't happen very often in small remote areas and to have had this experience is something for everyone to remember for a very long time and be proud of.





Gulf Future visions

Around 60 people participated in the Gulf Future Visions workshop held in Normanton on 14 October. The purpose of the workshop was to identify factors likely to shape the Gulf economy into future decades, and to identify opportunities and challenges arising from these future trends.

The Future of Agribusiness

Prominent company Director and former State treasurer, Keith De Lacy, said that global "food security represents a much greater challenge for mankind than carbon pollution", and told participants to prepare for the soft commodities boom (particularly food and fibre products).

To meet the challenge Keith said there needed to be increased productivity (science, GM crops

etc), removal of trade protectionism and more efficient use of the world's water. He encouraged the Gulf to focus on its strengths (lifestyle, environment and resources). He said the Gulf's water resources are a "massive asset in a hungry world" and said that the Gilbert River irrigation proposal had "great potential, but many challenges", and to make sure it had an economy of scale.

Demographic Change and Economic Trends

Economist and futurist, Kim Houghton, forecast that the global recession will last longer than the 'downturn' in Australia. He challenged the Gulf economy to diversify, add value and seek flow-on benefits from larger projects (eg: mines). At the Gulf Small Business Forum on 15 October, Kim urged

businesses to plan for changes in their main markets. He presented data showing that while there has been increased demand for low quality and high quality products across Australia, there has been a decline in demand for mid-value products. Kim said while it is hard for small business to compete with the big chains in the low value market, there are great opportunities for small business to compete in the high value markets – including in the Gulf.

Sustainable Futures for Gulf Aboriginal People

Academic and consultant, David Martin, exhorted the Gulf community as a whole to work together to address the socio-economic disadvantage we facing Gulf Aboriginal people. He outlined the youthfulness of the Gulf Aboriginal population and forecast that the Gulf Aboriginal population is likely to increase as an overall proportion of the Gulf in coming years. He urged the Aboriginal community to embrace education to equip their leaders for the challenges ahead.

Political Perspectives

Local State MP, Betty Kiernan, and Federal Senator Jan McLucas, both spoke about their Government's support for the region and their interest in supporting the outcomes of the

workshop. Carpentaria Shire Mayor, Cr Fred Pascoe, Burke Shire Deputy Mayor, Cr Ernie Camp and Etheridge Shire Mayor, Cr Warren Devlin, outlined their vision for the Gulf – and the need to align that local vision with national and global realities.

Outcomes

In the afternoon, participants discussed how we could respond to some of these future trends and came up with the following:

- Investigate export opportunities into Asia for the Gulf (esp. primary industries)
- Redevelop the Gulf Regional Development Plan, with full indigenous participation, to plan how we adapt to these future trends
- Hold a Gulf Renewable Energy Summit in 2010 to investigate alternate energy options
- Promote sharing a business experience and sharing of information through establishment of a Gulf Chamber of Commerce.

Copies of all presentations are available on CD from Gulf Savannah Development: info@gulf-savannah.com.au or 1800 630 119

Lloyd Jones (MMG Century), Keith De Lacy, Paul MacGuiness (ADBT)

Gregory Grapevine

RFDS Clinic Gregory (Doctor & Child Health Nurse)
From 9am Thursday Fortnightly

- November 26th
- December 10th & 24th

North & West Qld Primary Health Care – Gregory Visits every 3 months

Ph Mt Isa Office for more details
4749 4615 Free call 1800 221 131

- Psychologist
- Occupational Therapist

- Speech Therapist
- Dietitian
- Podiatrist
- Physiotherapist

Gregory School New

- Gregory School is off to Mt Isa for the school camp. The kids will be attending Sports for Bush Kids for the whole week. Sports for Bush Kids is generously funded through PCAP.
- Christmas Break-up is this Friday 27th November.

- School finishes on Friday 4th December

Social Tennis – Thursday Night

- Starts around 6:30pm every Thursday night.
- Bring along meat/bread to share on the BBQ

CWA – Gregory Branch

- How Many Grids To Gregory cookbooks are available for sale - \$8 each or for local Burke Shire

residents and business a discount of 20 books for \$120 (a saving of \$2 per book) – contact Sue Clarke (Ph 47485575)

Gregory SES

- To join please see/ring Ian Forshaw 47485521

Births

Jason & Megan Munchenberg have a new baby daughter, Ayla Bell born on 30/9/09. Big brother Aidan is very proud.

Sport Bursary Awards



2009 BHP Billiton Cannington Mine North Queensland Sport Development Bursary Awards for Jordan Marshall & Matthew Douglas

To celebrate Jordan & Matthew receiving the above awards a morning tea was held at the Council library on Friday 2 October 2009. During the presentation, Mayor Annie Clarke spoke on how proud she was to be Mayor of a Shire that produced so many sport stars and how especially proud she was of Matthew & Jordan for playing a leadership role at school as well as doing well at sport. Matthew & Jordan received their awards in front of their extended family including their Grandparents, Parents, Siblings & Cousins, also in attendance was CEO, Leanne Mash & Council Office Staff.

Matthew & Jordan were very

happy with their jackets & couldn't wait to try them on. They were both non committal as to just what their \$500 bursary cheques would be spent on but were both in agreeance that it would not go astray when it came time to buy new sports equipment.

Matthew & Jordan thanked North Queensland Sports Foundation for selecting them and BHP Billiton Cannington Mine for the Bursary they provided.

The parents thanked Council for nominating their children for this award and extends their thanks to the North Queensland Sport Foundation & BHP Billiton Cannington Mine.

EVENTS CALENDAR

1 December	GSD Meeting
4 December	Last day of School
7 - 18 December	Vacation Care Burketown
17 - 19 December	North and West Qld Primary Health Care at Burketown : Cultural Liaison Officer, Podiatrist, Physiotherapist and Dietitian
12 December	Christmas in the Park
18 December	Council breakup
20 December	Carols at the Church
4 January	Council office returns
11 January	Council depot returns
11 - 22 January	Vacation Care Burketown
26 January	Australia Day Event
27 January	School resumes

Introducing GWEN

Gwen is the Gulf Womens Email Network and she was officially launched at the Gulf Small Business Forum in Normanton on 15 October 2009.

What Gwen can do for you:

- Support women in small business and primary production in the Gulf Shires
- Provide mutual support, an opportunity to network, a medium for interactive communication and online training

- GWEN is a way to disseminate information such as government grants, relevant business information, media releases of interest, training and skilling opportunities.

All women in the Gulf are invited to join the discussions in the Forum. There is no charge for being part of the network. Register and profile your business at www.qwen.org.au



Vacational Care

The Vacation care program will start on Monday 7th. Dec. and run through until the 18th Dec. There will be a break then until Jan 11th and will run through until Friday 22nd. Jan.

There will be a structured Learn to Swim program for all children attending the program. There will be a schedule and progress documented for any parent to discuss with the coordinator of the vacation care program. If possible there will be scheduled times within the program for infants water familiarisation. While the children are having free swim time, parents with smaller children will be offered the opportunity to take some training in getting their younger children familiar with water. If they are already confident then extra activities to develop more water skills can be shown.

There will be two brand new bikes given away to two children of Burketown. The bikes will be prizes for the children who attend the program, (each day you gain points), their behaviour at the program, plus a small series of handicap races (worked on age) over 400 metres. The Bikes will be awarded in the January program so there will be records kept and a notice board style advertising of points for all to see.

The bikes will be brand new Fluid Mountain bikes and will be sized for the particular winners.

Each Friday there will be a BBQ lunch done for the children and their parents or care givers. The BBQ will be simple but it is aimed at getting people to the program to see what the children do and how they spend their time. But more importantly it is hoped that adults will be available to share play time with the children. Every Friday the program will be a half day finishing by 2:00pm. at the latest.

It is proposed that a Hairdresser attend the program during the second week of Dec to target the girls with deportment activities, hair care and so on. For the boys hair care and if parents allow, hair cuts.

The program will have new toys plus cushions are being made for a TV Quiet area to be in the hall for DVD/TV area that will be comfortable and cool for the kids.

There will be craft activities, with a Christmas theme as well as cooking, slime, sports and other attractions.

For more information please call Michael Stevenson, Regional Coordinator, Gulf Region, 0437700366.

Family Christmas in the Park 2009

**Morning Glory Park Burketown
12 December from 5.30 pm**

A Christmas Story and Carols

with Rev Gary Hardinham

Bring your own picnic dinner and blanket

Children are invited to participate in the hanging of their **Christmas Decoration** on the Community Christmas Tree

MMG Century is having a **FREE** sausage sizzle for all to enjoy.

6.30 pm Santa arrives !

Every adult who comes to the **2009 Burke Shire Family Christmas in the Park** receives a ticket with a chance to WIN...

Two Tickets to the Skytrans Taipans Basketball Game
On Friday evening 18 December 2009
With air fares and overnight accommodation included

Kindly donated by Skytrans.

Please note this is an alcohol free event



2009 Burketown Campdraft & Rodeo

A BIG THANK YOU to all sponsors and volunteers that made this year's event possible. Your hard work and generosity is appreciated. It was another successful weekend with loads of fun and entertainment for all. Great food, cold drinks and big numbers in the nominations which included a good mix of young and old as well as locals and visitors contributed to the weekend.

Friday kicked off with the first round of the open bull ride, paddy ride and entertainment till late.

Then it was an early start on Saturday morning for

campdrafters and workers with the Maiden, Open and Ladies drafts held before lunch.

Saturday was also a day for the kids with the gymkhana and a highly anticipated helicopter lolly drop. As the sun set it was another night of rodeo with the open saddle bronc, calf scuffling and bull ride finals followed by another night of music and dancing. Sunday wrapped the weekend up with the novice, juvenile, junior, mini and finals drafts.

Presentations were held over lunch and the visitors packed up and headed for home. So once again thanks to all and we hope to see you in 2010.



PUBLIC NOTICES

Mosquito Fogging and Control

Council will be commencing mosquito fogging for the 2009/10 wet season in Burketown, Gregory & Rural Properties. The fogging will usually be undertaken in the mornings, between 4:30am and 6:30am, on days when the wind conditions permit. In the townships there may be additional fogging of an evening if mosquitoes are present in large numbers. Residents are requested to ensure where practical their houses be closed up for the duration of the fogging.

In the case of Rural properties Council is offering a free "fog" and limited distribution of pellets to those rural properties that may be interested. Should you wish to partake in this service (or have any queries in respect of it) please contact Council's Ranger, Russell Cunningham, at this office and register your expression of interest.

Subject to weather it is expected that this will be actioned over the next few weeks (some prior to Christmas and some in early January 2008).

The extent of the fogging in the build up to and through the wet season will depend on available funds and the extent of the mosquito problem.

In addition to this fogging, there are a number of actions that can be taken by residents to prevent mosquitoes from breeding and your cooperation in attending to these is requested. These include:

- emptying outside containers of water daily
- filling pot plant water trays with sand
- checking that gauze on rain water tanks is brass, copper, aluminum or stainless steel and of aperture diameter no greater than 1mm mesh
- preventing water from ponding in holes by filling them in
- keeping long grass mowed
- wiping all containers of any debris, especially if black, blue coloured eggs around 1mm in size are present.

Should you have any inquiries or any special needs in respect to the fogging program please contact Council's Ranger, Russell Cunningham, at the Council office. Thank you.



Leanne E Mash
Chief Executive Officer Burke Shire Council
November 2009

SHUTDOWN

Arrangements for the 2009 Christmas New year Shutdown

The Burke Shire Council administration office and depot will be closed for the Christmas/New Year period from 4:00pm Friday December 18 2009. Administration office will opened at 9:00am Monday January 4 2010 and the depot will resume Monday January 11 2010.

A "skeleton" crew will be working, and on call, through this period to ensure water, sewerage and airport services are maintained in Burketown and water and airport services are maintained in Gregory.

The following contacts are available in the event of an emergency situation that requires a response from council:- In this order, please contact –

1. CEO, Leanne Mash
ph: 4745 5025
mob: 0458 004133

2. Dennis Kerr
mob: 0408 872377

3. Zoe Belz
mob: 0488 099777

Garbage collection arrangements for Burketown residents over this period will continue as normal i.e. on Fridays except on Friday December 25 (Christmas Day) where the collection will be on Thursday December 24 2009 and Friday 1 January 2010 (New Years Day) where the collection will be on Thursday 31 December 2009. There will also be an extra pick up on Tuesday December 29. As per usual practice residents are requested to place their garbage bins at the edge of the bitumen seal by 7:00am on the scheduled collection day.

Burketown Swimming Pool

The key card entry to the Burketown Swimming Pool is in the process of being fixed and will be operational on December 1 2009.

From Tuesday December 1 2009 pool access cards are available for sale at the Council Office for entry into the pool. For those that have pool keys please bring them into the office to be exchanged for a pool access card as your key will no longer have access after Monday December 7. Thank you for your cooperation.

Business Closures over Christmas break

Hells Gate

Closed for Business:
Christmas Day, Boxing Day
& New Years Day.

Tirranna

Closed for Business:
Christmas Day, Boxing Day
& New Years Day

Nowlands

Closed for Business:
Christmas Day, Boxing Day
& New Years Day

Post Office

Closed for business:
Christmas Day, Boxing Day
& New Years Day

Pub

Closed Christmas Day

Debbie's Takeaway

Closed till further notice

Caravan Park

Open

Caravan Park Food Van

Open till further notice



Burke Shire Council & RADF Copperfoil & Stained Glass workshop

Burke Shire Council in conjunction with RADF held a 'Copperfoil & Stained Glass' workshop at the Burketown Shire Hall. The workshop was taught by Clifford Dermott and was conducted over nine days.

There were only eight students that participated in the Burketown workshop which was a pity as the course was well worth the effort & time that was needed to complete it. Gregory workshop had to be cancelled as there was only one participant that registered their interest however Council will endeavour to reintroduce the workshop next year subject to interest.

Those that participated in the workshop completed many projects including stained glass window hangings, lamp shades, Xmas decorations, suncatcher mobiles & trinket boxes. Skills learnt include soldering, glass cutting, lead lighting, copperfoiling & glass grinding.



Gregory Downs School P&C Trivia Night

On the 31st October 2009, the Gregory Downs School P&C held their annual Trivia Night at Gregory Downs Station. The night was a great success for the P&C, raising \$1731.

Eight teams attended to test out their knowledge of everything from modern day music to historic geography.

The Gregory Googleites took out the top prize, followed closely by the Passion Fingers.

Thank you to all our sponsors, Burke Shire Council, Gregory Downs Hotel, Lamberts Produce, Landmark Cloncurry, James Pay Loader Hire, Adels Grove, Camooweal Butchery, Merg & Gabe Kennedy – Escott Stn, Gregory Downs Social Club & North West Vets for helping to make this night a success. Also, big thank you to all who attended and helped support our school.

See you all next year for another great night.



WINNERS – GREGORY GOOGLE ITES. David Arnold, Tom Arnold, John Clarke, Tess Arnold, Annie Clarke, Sue Clarke

Introduction to Burketown's Occupational Therapist

My name is Beau Sheppard and I am the Occupational Therapist that visits Burketown every 6 weeks. I work for North West Queensland Primary Health Care and I travel to rural and remote communities within the Gulf region.

I began working with North West Qld Primary Health Care in January of this year, and I often find that I have to explain my role as an Occupational Therapist. Occupational Therapy or O.T. has many roles to offer in supporting people young or wise within their community.

What is Occupational Therapy?

"The primary goal of occupational therapy is to enable people to participate in the activities of everyday life" (World Federation of Occupational Therapists).

Referrals can be from people across the lifespan - including infants, children, adolescents/youth, adults, and older persons. Occupational

Therapist's work together with people in their homes, school, workplaces, and other community settings, including hospital and community health care environments.

Children often develop at different stages and while there is no right or wrong way, there can be times where one on one assistance and activities designed to improve specific areas of development are needed. Children can find the classroom environment and certain tasks overwhelming especially when there is something that is blocking their ability to carry out these tasks. Fine motor skills i.e. handwriting & using scissors, along with difficulty copying from the board or book when writing i.e. writing backwards or outside of the lines can be an indication of visual and/or motor planning issues. Specific activities and extra time spent in these areas can assist the child to keep up with their classmates.

OT's assess and prescribe equipment such as wheelchairs, 4 wheeled walkers, and other mobility aids. We can also assess the bathroom and toilet for grab rails, or for major modifications i.e. removing step over bath tub or to measure for ramps at the front or back of the house. We work alongside builders for Dept of Housing, Home Assist Secure, private contractors and equipment suppliers to ensure all recommendations for our clients are within relevant guidelines to ultimately achieve better access and safety for the person within their home.

Ergonomic assessments, return to work programs and providing strategies for managing everyday tasks in the workplace during your recovery can also be provided by an Occupational Therapist.

As case managers working in mental health the focus of our role is assisting and empowering people to manage everyday

activities such as budgeting, maintaining their home environment, learning coping strategies together with social and community integration.

I hope this article has given you some insight into the role of an occupational therapist and that you keep us OT's in mind when you need a hand to keep up with everyday life.

The North West Primary Health Care team travel to Burketown with allied health staff travelling on alternating trips every three weeks. The allied health team include a Podiatrist, Psychologist, Occupational Therapist, Speech Pathologist, Physiotherapist and an Indigenous Liaison Officer. We provide individual client treatment and group health promotion activities such as health screenings and school sessions for child health.

Contact Details:

Ms Beau Sheppard
53 Enid St, Mt Isa, 4825
Ph: 47 49 4615




Small Business Advisory Services Gulf Savannah and Tablelands

Gulf Savannah Development (GSD), in partnership with the Tablelands Futures Corporation (TFC), is delivering **small business advisory services** across the Gulf Savannah and Tablelands in 2009.



Sue Fairley, who many businesses will remember from her previous role as Small Business Field Officer, has been employed to deliver these services. A panel of specialist advisers will be available through Sue to meet your specific needs.

These services are **free or low cost** (some conditions apply: please discuss with Sue).

Please contact Sue on:
Mobile: 0417 795 724
Email: smallbusiness@gulf-savannah.com.au
Or contact the GSD office: Free Call 1800 830 119.

A broad range of services can be provided in 2009 including:

- Mentoring ► Basic Marketing Plans
- Business Planning Advice/ Small Business Diagnostics
- Advice on Loans/ Banking Products ► Referrals
- Legal and Accounting Advice ► Leasing Guidance
- Advice on Government Regulation and Compliance.

The services provided are partially funded by the Australian Government through the AusIndustry programme. These services are also supported by: Capernwita Shire Council, Etheridge Shire Council, Tablelands Regional Council, Bail of the Road Motel (Karamba), Ash's (Karamba), Gulfland Motel and Caravan Park (Normanton), Latana Motel (Georgetown), and the Savannah Regional Health Service.

Christmas closure for Council office and depot

Council will close for Christmas at 4pm, Friday 18 December 2009.

Council's administration office will resume on Monday 4 January 2010.

Depot will resume 9am Monday 11 January 2010.

The following contacts are available in the event of an emergency situation that requires a response from Council. – In this order, please contact

1. Leanne Mash - **4745 5025** or **0458 004133**
2. Dennis Kerr - **0408 872377**
3. Zoe Belz - **0488 099 777**

Christmas Carol Singing

in BURKETOWN church building
on Sunday Night, 20th December 2009
at 7.30 p.m.

Glo sticks will be provided
(No candles please)

All Welcome

Contact: Doug Jones
Ph: 0747455056



skytrans GULF SCHEDULE

Schedule effective 01 July 2009

Monday Westbound				
Origin	Dest.	Dep.	Arr.	Flt #
CNS	NTN	12:20	13:55	Q654
NTN	ONG	14:25	15:15	Q654
ONG	BUC	15:40	16:20	Q654
BUC	DMD	16:45	17:20	Q654
DMD	ISA	17:45	18:45	Q654

Monday Eastbound				
Origin	Dest.	Dep.	Arr.	Flt #
ISA	DMD	9:25	10:25	Q655
DMD	ONG	10:50	11:30	Q655
ONG	NTN	11:55	12:45	Q655
NTN	CNS	13:15	14:50	Q655

Tuesday Westbound				
Origin	Dest.	Dep.	Arr.	Flt #

Tuesday Eastbound				
Origin	Dest.	Dep.	Arr.	Flt #
ISA	DMD	7:00	8:00	Q653
DMD	BUC	8:25	9:00	Q653
BUC	ONG	9:25	10:05	Q653
ONG	NTN	10:30	11:20	Q653
NTN	CNS	11:50	13:25	Q653

Wednesday Westbound				
Origin	Dest.	Dep.	Arr.	Flt #
CNS	NTN	13:20	14:55	Q656
NTN	ONG	15:25	16:15	Q656
ONG	DMD	16:40	17:20	Q656
DMD	ISA	17:45	18:45	Q656

Wednesday Eastbound				
Origin	Dest.	Dep.	Arr.	Flt #

Thursday Westbound				
Origin	Dest.	Dep.	Arr.	Flt #
CNS	NTN	12:20	13:55	Q654
NTN	ONG	14:25	15:15	Q654
ONG	BUC	15:40	16:20	Q654
BUC	DMD	16:45	17:20	Q654
DMD	ISA	17:45	18:45	Q654

Thursday Eastbound				
Origin	Dest.	Dep.	Arr.	Flt #
ISA	DMD	7:00	8:00	Q657
DMD	ONG	8:25	9:05	Q657
ONG	NTN	9:30	10:20	Q657
NTN	CNS	10:50	12:25	Q657

Friday Westbound				
Origin	Dest.	Dep.	Arr.	Flt #
CNS	NTN	12:35	14:10	Q658
NTN	ONG	14:40	15:30	Q658
ONG	DMD	15:55	16:35	Q658
DMD	ISA	17:00	18:00	Q658

Friday Eastbound				
Origin	Dest.	Dep.	Arr.	Flt #
ISA	DMD	7:00	8:00	Q653
DMD	BUC	8:25	9:00	Q653
BUC	ONG	9:25	10:05	Q653
ONG	NTN	10:30	11:20	Q653
NTN	CNS	11:50	13:25	Q653

NTN = Normanton **ONG** = Mornington Island **BUC** = Burketown **DMD** = Doomadgee **ISA** = Mt Isa **CNS** = Cairns

Bookings can be made by phoning Skytrans on 1300 759 872
or on the web at www.skytrans.com.au

Customers departing Burketown are requested to check-in at the Council office 60 minutes prior to the scheduled departure time.